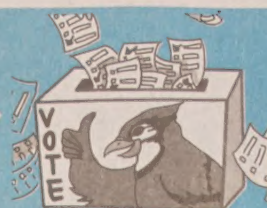


Peabody students pen
a new musical
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT B4



Ed board
encourages more
student polling
EDITORIAL A10

the johns hopkins News-Letter

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VINGUYEN
Greenfield speaks to full house.

FAS hosts Ben and Jerry's co-founder

By JOHN DUROVSIK
Staff Writer

Jerry Greenfield, co-founder of Ben and Jerry's Homemade, Inc., headlined the final event of this spring's Foreign Affairs Symposium series on Tuesday night at Shriver Hall. He began by discussing Ben and Jerry's beginnings and reminiscing about his first encounter with co-founder Ben Cohen.

"We met in 7th grade," Greenfield said. "We were in gym class, and we met while running around the track. We were the two slowest and most fat kids."

Greenfield's own failure to gain admittance to medical school and Cohen's distaste for colleges in general led the pair to explore opportunities elsewhere.

"We were essentially failing at everything we

SEE GREENFIELD, PAGE A4

"Bomb threat" at Subway proves to be false alarm

By JACK BARTHOLET
Senior Staff Writer

Yesterday afternoon, the Johns Hopkins Emergency Alert Text Message System sent a campus-wide message informing students of a bomb threat at Subway. The message read, "Bomb threat at Subway Restaurant located at 33rd & St Paul, Charles

Village. Avoid the Location."

Several minutes later, a follow-up message was sent alerting students that the perceived threat had been handled. This message read, "Bomb threat/suspicious package has been cleared. Area is now open to the public."

According to Dennis O'Shea, Hopkins Execu-

tive Director of Media Relations and Crisis Communications, the warning was following reports of a questionable item left on the sidewalk in front of Subway, not a bomb.

"Apparently it wasn't a threat, it was a suspicious package that was seen," O'Shea said. "That package has been checked and it has been determined that

it wasn't a threat, so everything is secure."

According to O'Shea, an off-duty Baltimore police officer working for Hopkins at the time had noticed a suspicious suitcase. JHU Campus Safety and Security then established a perimeter around the location while a Baltimore police officer took possession of the suitcase.

"Campus Safety apparently secured the perimeter, but it was an on-duty Baltimore police officer who actually apparently took custody of the suspicious object," O'Shea said.

Upon investigating the suspicious item, it was determined that the suitcase contained clothing and did not contain any sort of explosive device.



XIXI XU/PHOTOGRAPHY STAFF

Inclement weather conditions forced Relay for Life activities to relocate indoors to the O'Connor Recreation Center over the past weekend.

Relay for Life events raise money and spirits

By ELLIE PENATI
For The News-Letter

Relay For Life hosted its annual event this past Friday. The 564 registered participants and the Hopkins community raised a total of \$50,000 for the Relay For Life event, a \$10,000

decrease from last year's event. These donations will go to funding cancer research and patient support programs.

The 7 p.m. to 7 a.m. event was held in the Recreation Center rather than the usual location of Keyser Quad due to inclem-

ent weather. Participants, student organizations and cancer survivors joined together for the cause of raising funds for the American Cancer Society.

Relay For Life is the American Cancer Society's principal fundraiser. Colleges and communities

worldwide host the event.

The Hope Lodge is one support program in particular that is supported by Relay For Life fundraising. The Hope Lodge is a free place for cancer patients and their caregivers to live if their treatment centers

SEE RELAY FOR LIFE, PAGE A6

Poll shows majority support for smoking ban

By NICOLE ZIEGLER
Staff Writer

On Tuesday morning Robert Turning, Director of Student Activities, sent the entire undergraduate community an email revealing the results from the Smoking Ban Survey that went on throughout the SGA elections. The majority, at 52.7 percent and 1540 votes, felt that smoking should be banned on the Hopkins campus. About 37.7 percent of voters went against the ban with 1079 votes and another 241 votes, or 8.4 percent, abstained.

The survey's results are the first step in the debate over whether to ban smoking on campus. Hopkins Kicks Butts, the Anti-Tobacco Coalition, is one of the groups who worked to make this survey happen.

"The purpose of the survey was simply to gauge how students feel about making campus smoke-free. This was one early step out of many toward potentially putting the ban into effect," Hopkins Kicks Butts wrote in an email to *The News-Letter*.

The survey was done for President Ron Daniels to decipher student opinion on the matter.

"At the present time the vote means very little except a statement of student opinions. The results will be passed on to President Daniels who will decide if an exploratory committee is worth forming," junior Michael St. Germain, Executive Treasurer of the SGA, said.

The results from the

SEE SMOKING BAN, PAGE A6

Engineering Dean takes new post at Penn State

By AUDREY COCKRUM
Staff Writer

Dean Nick Jones announced last Friday that he will step down from his position on June 30 as the first Benjamin T. Rome Dean of the Whiting School of Engineering. Jones will be moving to The Pennsylvania State University, where he has accepted an offer to serve as the institution's next Executive Vice President and Provost.

"Penn State is one of our great public universities, and the provost is its chief academic officer, reporting directly to the president and acting as chief executive officer in the president's absence," President Ron Daniels wrote in an email to the University community. "I know that everyone at Johns Hopkins joins me in offering Nick congratulations and best wishes."

Jones has served as a

SEE JONES, PAGE A2

Sexual Psychologist draws large crowd

By ALEXANDRA
BALLATO
Staff Writer

Honors society Psi Chi hosted sexual psychologist Park Dietz last night for a talk entitled Sexual Sadism: When Lust and Cruelty Merge. The talk was part of the G. Stanley Hall Lecture series.

Dietz opened his talk by asking the audience if they had heard of the popular book *Fifty Shades of Grey*, by E. L. James. Out of approximately 200 students and faculty, the vast majority raised their hands.

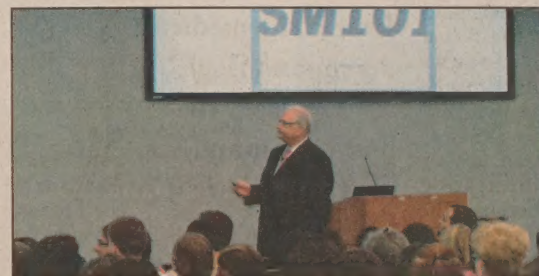
Dietz believes that *Fifty Shades of Grey* has pushed into the mainstream what was once a subculture.

"It is a trashy novel that came about at the right

time," he said.

Dietz reviewed over a century of history, from the first mentions of sadomasochistic (S&M) tendencies

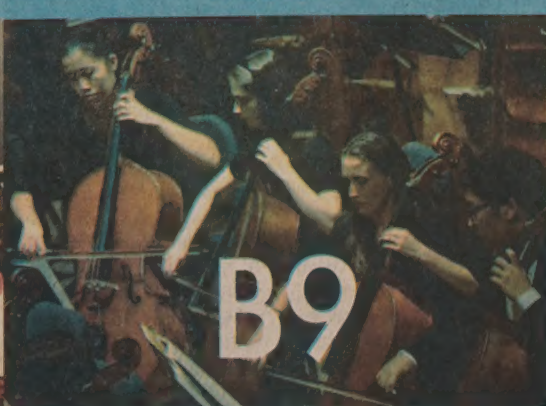
SEE SEXUAL SADISM, PAGE A4



JENNY CHO/PHOTOGRAPHY STAFF

Dietz speaks to Hopkins students about sexual sadism practices.

INSIDE



NEWS & FEATURES

SJP provides alternative point of view

By ELIZABETH ARENZ
Senior Staff Writer

Founded this April as a provisional group, the Students for Justice in Palestine club seeks to provide Hopkins with another point of view regarding the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Freshman Maysa Elsheikh, co-founder of the new group, along with junior Basmah Nada, explained that she and a few friends sensed a one-sidedness to the attention given to the conflict.

"We wanted to provide a political atmosphere regarding this conflict and to show more of the Palestinian side of what has been going on," Elsheikh said.

The mission statement of the provisional club lays out its intentions in a simple, sweeping phrase.

"The purpose of Students for Justice in Palestine is to draw awareness to the plight of the Palestinian people under Israeli occupation."

When the club first began the process necessary to gain recognition from Hopkins, there were concerns about the ways in which members would communicate their message to the campus community.

"When we had our interview, we explained that we weren't going to be disruptive of other organizations on campus," Elsheikh said.

Elsheikh also stressed her group's constructive intentions.

"We don't plan on disrespecting anyone else's freedom of speech," she said. "We just want our voices to be heard as well."

Though the group was approved by the SGA, the vote was not unanimous. Elsheikh and her friends attended the meeting at which members of the SGA voted on its authorization.

"The majority [of votes] were yes, but there were quite a few abstains, and a few people said no,"

Elsheikh said.

The mission statement of the Department of Student Life, the unit to which Students for Justice in Palestine was granted acceptance, leaves open the opportunity for a wide range of student groups, highlighting the importance of diversity.

"The Mission of the Department of Student Life is to support the holistic development of students and provide programming to the University community," it reads. "We encourage the active engagement of students in diverse social, educational and cultural programs, which compliments their academic experience and fosters personal and professional growth."

In accordance with its own mission statement, the group has already planned to make clear

to students that more than one opinion exists in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. The club hopes to begin by showing a film depicting a Palestinian civilian's resistance to the Israeli army.

"We're hoping to have our first event open to the public and show Five Broken Cameras, a documentary nominated for an Oscar," said Elsheikh. "We're trying to have the director of the film, Emad Burnat, contact us via Skype [at the event] for people who have questions."

Elsheikh detailed the positive responses she has received and is excited about quickly increasing club membership.

"Right now we've been having more orga-

nizational meetings and dealing with the constitution, but lots of people on campus have been interested," she said. "[At our first event] we also want to discuss our plans and just tell people more about our club."

Regardless of personal views, students at Hopkins respect the importance of a well-represented community. Sophomore Laura Kokotailo recognizes and

A discussion surrounding the formation of a group that would result in Students for Justice in Palestine began early in the fall of this year, and quickly garnered support from a number of graduate students as well. Paul Kohl-bry, a graduate student from the Anthropology Department, was particularly interested. He was then selected as adviser for the club.

"We thought he seemed very invested and that he would be a great adviser," Elsheikh said.

Elsheikh elaborated on how rapidly the group has been moving through the process of becoming recognized.

"We're pretty much done with organizational things required to become a real club," she said. "Our plan is to be up and running by the beginning of next year."

Regarding alternate methods of raising awareness, Elsheikh shared plans of forming a blog that would be kept updated with current events on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, as well as other more general occurrences in Palestine. The co-founders intend to focus on the spread of information as a way to establish a voice for this alternate viewpoint at Hopkins.

Elsheikh believes that the club will begin by holding its own events, but also hopes for future collaboration and joint discussions with other student groups.

"I think it all depends on how the event would be framed," she said. "We've been talking about this because other groups have talked to us about working together, but it would have to be on something that agrees with our values and our mission statement."



COURTESY OF WWW.CALSI.ORG
The borders of the West Bank are disputed.



COURTESY OF ALEX SKELTON

Students gather outside MSE Library to support the Boston community.

Students marathon for Boston, raise \$250

By GEORGINA RUPP
Senior Staff Writer

The Beach served as the starting line for 200 students showing support for the victims of the Boston Marathon bombings by participating in a group run around the Homewood campus a week ago Thursday.

The event raised money for the Massachusetts General Hospital, the Boston Children's Hospital Boston Marathon Relief Fund and the American Red Cross. About \$250 dollars in cash, not including J-Cash contributions, was raised for the Boston Children's Hospital.

Participants signed a banner that read "Hopkins stands with Boston" at the end of the three-mile run to send to the Children's Hospital.

Three members of the Beta Theta Pi (Beta) fraternity organized the event. Junior Alex Skelton conceived the idea Tuesday in order to gather the Hopkins community and also honor the victims, participants and spectators of the Boston Marathon.

Skelton, sophomore Aryel Abramovitz and junior Tyler Barnum, all members of Beta, were the primary organizers. The Inter-Fraternity Council, Panhellenic Council, Student Government Association and Beta Theta Pi all hosted the event.

"A lot of organizations were willing to come out and help," Skelton said. "They were excited about it too."

"There was a pretty big turnout," he said. "A lot of people donated, and there were also a bunch of people on the course to direct runners and cheer."

Sophomore Lindsay Caldaroni, a Boston native who participated in the run, was pleased that such an event took place on campus.

"I had been looking for a way to show support for my hometown, and having a run for Boston seemed like such a great way to commemorate the marathon," Caldaroni said. "I thought it was really cool to see how many people showed up and how supportive everyone was of each other and of the cause."

Politik discussion sparks debate over pot

By BEN SCHWARTZ
Staff Writer

JHU Politik hosted the second part of its Politik Conversation Series on Sunday evening, with participants engaging in a lively discussion about the pros and cons of changing the legal status of marijuana in the United States.

"I'm really interested in this issue of whether or not minimizing drug use is a societal good—and if it is a societal good, then is legalization probably the best way to do it?—maybe, but then what else do you have to do to minimize it?" Jeremy Orloff, co-editor-in-chief of JHU Politik, said.

The issue of medical marijuana was a major focus of the discussion. A common refrain was that medical marijuana laws in the States are frequently misapplied.

"On the medical marijuana issue, obviously for people who are dying of cancer and suffering, I have no problem," Matt Varano, co-editor-in-chief of the JHU Politik, said. "I view the medical marijuana issue as kind of a ruse, to be honest, for people who want to buy marijuana in states where it is otherwise illegal."

Much of the event focused on the distinction between decriminalizing possession of small amounts of marijuana and entirely legalizing the substance. The cost of the

Drug War was also a frequent talking point.

"[I'm] from Chicago, and it was recently decriminalized in Chicago this past summer, and I know most of the youth culture surrounding marijuana almost treated that as legalization. I think a lot of people were like, 'Oh, it doesn't matter whether we get caught, nobody is going to say it's a big deal,'" one participant said.

"The debate between decriminalization and legalization is very interesting because the line is very blurred, particularly for younger generations."

Other participants cited rapidly shifting public opinion polls on the marijuana question. For the first time, polls show that a majority of Americans are in favor of some sort of legalization legislation.

"Given that society is moving toward a more mainstream acceptance of this, it just depends on how much we go about achieving this policy goal," another participant said.

However, not everyone in the debate was willing to accept that viewpoint. "I agree that public

opinion is definitely moving in that direction, but I would challenge the premise of its inevitability. I think if you look at a number of nations who have taken steps to decriminalize or legalize some of these drugs, the percentage of people post-decriminalization or legalization that support that measure has actually declined rapidly to the point where it is in the low thirties," senior Stuart Johnson said.

More than one participant compared the federal laws targeted at marijuana to prohibition. Another topic that came up frequently was the incarceration of millions of people over the course of decades for drug offenses as well as what some said was the unequal treatment of different socioeconomic classes with regard to the possession of marijuana.

"When things are against the law, what drives up the cost of something? It's about how much money you can make. Look what happened during prohibition. We created a whole industry of criminals. For people who are poor this is something that can be

money making because it is illegal," a participant said.

Others disagreed, saying there were legitimate differences between alcohol, tobacco and marijuana that warranted different rules and regulations. Participants cited studies about marijuana as a gateway drug and the "slippery slope" toward decriminalization and legalization of other "harder" drugs.

"If this has been tried elsewhere, what lessons can we learn from [other nations]?" Johnson said.

This discussion took place as Maryland moved to decriminalize possession of small amounts of marijuana.

"I think this recent decriminalization is great progress for Maryland. The War on Drugs has been an absolute failure. The United States spends more than \$50 billion per year on the Drug War while drugs are more available and drug cartels are more wealthy than ever," Suzy Yaster, Hopkins College Democrats Co-President, wrote in an email to *The News-Letter*.

"At the same time, we have a mass incarceration problem, where African Americans make up 67 percent of those sent to prison for drug offenses despite comprising only 13 percent of illegal drug users. I think the recent legislation is a step in the right direction, and reflects frustration with the War on Drugs and its damaging effects."

Engineering dean bids farewell to University

JONES, FROM A1
member of the faculty at Hopkins since 1986, and was appointed dean in 2004.

"I have been extremely privileged and humbled to serve the Whiting School and the Johns Hopkins University—as a member of the faculty, a chair, and as dean—and I have thoroughly enjoyed the over 25 years I have had the honor of working here," Jones wrote in an email to *The News-Letter*.

During his tenure, Dr. Jones promoted numerous collaborative opportunities within the Whiting School

and across divisions. He helped to establish the Institute for NanoBio Technology, the Institute for Computational Medicine, and the Laboratory for Computational Sensing and Robotics, among other organizations.

"Nick Jones will leave the Whiting School in wonderful shape," President Daniels wrote. "He has built a strong and capable leadership team, and together they have done an outstanding job of recruiting and retaining faculty members of the highest caliber."

Since his appointment as dean, research funding has grown an average of 6 percent a year, led by increased support from the National Institutes of Health. The newly-constructed Hacker-

man Hall and the under-construction Malone Hall have also attracted significant philanthropic support.

Of course it is difficult to leave Hopkins, but Jones believes his new appointment at Penn State to be a natural professional advancement.

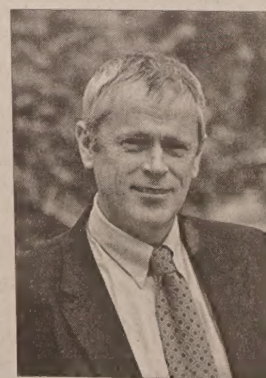
"It is a wonderful and exciting opportunity for me to contribute to the mission of an excellent institution and to help move it forward after a period of considerable challenges," he wrote.

As executive vice president and provost, Jones will be responsible for bringing together different parts of

the university to set overall academic and strategic priorities and allocate funds to move those priorities forward. He will work closely with vice presidents, vice provosts, deans of academic colleges and other unit leaders, staff, the University Faculty Senate and various other committees.

Jones is extremely thankful for all the support he has received during his time at Hopkins.

"The Whiting School is an extraordinary place. I draw immense pride from all of our accomplishments and never cease to be impressed by the talent and commitment of our people: our faculty, students and staff," he wrote. "I know that WSE's future is bright, indeed."



ENGINEERING/JHU.EDU
Dean Nick Jones is departing.

NEWS & FEATURES

Fmr. Cypriot Central Bank Governor speaks

Defends record and talks Euro crisis

By BEN KUPFERBERG
News & Features Editor

Former Cypriot Central Bank Governor Athanasios Orphanides, spoke at Hopkins on April 19 about the Euro Area crisis. Orphanides presided as Governor of the Central Bank of Cyprus from May 2007 to May 2012 and was a member of the Governing Council of the European Central Bank between Jan. 2008 and May 2012. Orphanides also previously taught graduate and undergraduate economics classes at Hopkins, while serving as a Senior Adviser at the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve.

Orphanides was at the helm of the Central Bank in the months leading up to the Euro Crisis. Two months after Cyprus joined the Euro Area, in Jan. of 2008, a communist government was elected. Shortly thereafter Orphanides said that he was escorted out of office.

"You need to have a strong character if you are going to work in a Central Bank under a communist government," Orphanides said.

Orphanides began by providing background on how the Eurozone crisis developed, citing a lack of economic governance and political inefficiency as two of the major causes. The financial crisis began in August of 2007 when a disturbance in the European money markets triggered a bank run on the Northern Rock bank in the United Kingdom. In the ensuing months, a series of events, including the September 2008 collapse of the investment bank Lehman Brothers sparked a global banking crisis and recession that ultimately brought about the Euro crisis.

"The banking crisis and recession that was happening in 2009 morphed into the sovereign crisis in the Euro Area, but it then became just a problem within the Euro Area, for reasons specific to how the Euro Area operates," Or-

phanides t h e n d e l v e d into a more quantitative approach, discussing the effect of the crisis on GDP per capita, unemployment and the sovereign bond markets.

He used a chart to display GDP per capita in both in the US and Europe, which showed a similar trend for the first 12 years of the Euro, but a large discrepancy between the two areas over the last two years. While US GDP per capita has been steadily increasing, Orphanides projected a widening discrepancy between the two areas in the coming years. He also expected a similar trend in unemployment rates, which have been steadily increasing in Europe.

One exception, according to Orphanides, is the German economy. Prior to the crisis, Germany experienced one of the highest unemployment rates in Europe, in 2005 and 2006. Since then, unemployment has fallen in Germany, while skyrocketing in other countries.

"It's almost as if the policy has been designed to help the German economy. Youth unemployment (25 and under) has been the cause of so much turmoil in Europe, yet Germany hasn't experienced much of this," Orphanides said.

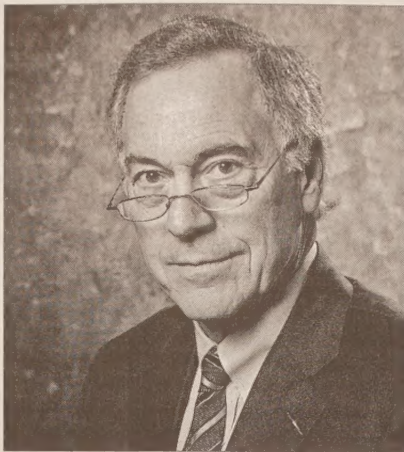
H i s discussion also covered the disintegration of sovereign bond markets in Europe, a major problem during the crisis.

"France, Germany, Italy and Spain account for 80% of European GDP, and you can see the problems that exist with the sovereign bond markets by looking at two year government bond yields. You have one currency, but it is much harder for Italy and Spain to finance themselves because of bond prices. These differences translate into financing households and business," Orphanides said.

He had to watch the crisis in Cyprus play out from the sidelines, but during his speech he offered two different approaches for how to solve the crisis in Europe. The first was a "cooperative" approach, which would strengthen EU governance so that all member states would be bound to respect the rules and show solidarity when needed. However, the required strengthening

would imply certain constraints, such as restricting a government's ability to increase spending, potentially limiting sovereignty. However, Orphanides did acknowledge the potential moral hazard problem inherent in guaranteeing aid to countries undergoing economic turmoil.

The second, "non-cooperative" approach would make temporary assistance extremely costly to the government request-



COURTESY OF BEN KUPFERBERG
Professor Steve Hanke, a currency researcher, also spoke.

ing help. While this approach would eliminate the moral hazard problem, it would also raise the cost of financing weak governments that have high debts or deficits. Orphanides was less enthusiastic about the non-cooperative approach, arguing it would show poor solidarity in a system that was built to unify the different countries of Europe.

"In October 2010, the governments of Germany and France moved the Euro Area to the non-cooperative approach. The idea was to raise costs on weak governments. Despite concerns raised by the European Central Bank, other governments went along," Orphanides said.

He also discussed the proper role of the European Central Bank (ECB), and its inability to solve the Eurocrisis, which Orphanides described as a fundamentally "political" problem. The ECB has the capacity to buy the debt of member state governments, potentially averting fiscal collapse temporarily. However, this would ultimately come at cost to Euro Area as a whole.

One major policy enacted by the ECB that induced postponement was the use of outright monetary transactions (OMT), a program that alludes to the ECB purchases in secondary, sovereign bond markets of bonds issued by Eurozone member-states.

"Words continue to suggest a strong desire for a solution, yet actions suggest a continued dominance by local politics which ultimately leads to postponement," Orphanides said.

The tail end of the lecture focused on the German elections in Sept. 2013, which have been responsible for delaying many of the decisions about how to solve the European crisis. Many policy options that might benefit the EU are unpopular in Germany, as the Germans have already effectively financed previous Eurozone bailouts. Further action might therefore jeopardize German Chancellor Angela Merkel's re-election prospects.

The delay in finalizing a program for Cyprus pushed the problem into the German election cycle, Orphanides noted. Cyprus had a stable currency prior to its entry to the European Union, however many of its banks were holding Greek sovereign debt, and this large exposure to Greece eventually brought

down the Cypriot Banking System.

In a confidential study by financial consulting firm Alvarez and Marsal, which was leaked in early April, it was reported that the Central Bank of Cyprus formally requested information regarding Bank of Cyprus's holdings of Greek government bonds in March 2010. Nonetheless, no written response was received from the BOC. The CBC did not follow up on this on a timely basis; the reason for which is unclear.

According to Professor of Applied Economics Steve Hanke, this sequence indicates that Orphanides avoided some important aspects of the Cypriot Crisis in his speech.

"It's always interesting to hear central bankers deny wrongdoing. Whether it's a bankruptcy, an economic slump, or a financial crisis, it's always 'the other guy's' fault. In the case of Cyprus, many of us knew, as early as Fall 2011, that that several of Cyprus' largest banks had gone bust. They went bust on Orphanides' watch. It would have been interesting to hear more about how the Central Bank of Cyprus kept that dirty little secret under wraps for over a year," Hanke said.

Recently, Hanke published research indicating that Cypriot banks deposits were heavily composed of money from Russian depositors. This parallels criticism that Merkel's government faced during the debate over the Cyprus bailout. Some in the German press argued that helping Cyprus would be equivalent to "giving away German taxpayer money to Russian oligarchs who have deposits in Cypriot banks."

"How could elections in any single state matter for a program in another area of Europe? That is a major problem for why the crisis is continuing," Orphanides said.

Cyprus has recently scheduled a vote on the final version of the bailout developed by the European Union and the International Monetary Fund. This 10 billion euro aid deal would impose a tax on all deposits in Cypriot banks over the insurance threshold of 100,000 euro. This would force massive losses on big depositors in the island's two major commercial banks, and would trigger economic turmoil likely to put the country deeper into recession.

Cyprus comprises only 0.2 percent of the GDP of the Euro Area, but this microcosm represents many of the problems that Europe as a whole faces. As Orphanides expressed, people need to address these, problems as political, because the economic woes are the result of a lack of strong governance.



LEON SANTHAKUMAR/PHOTOGRAPHY STAFF
Three speakers discuss microfinance at Charles Commons on Tuesday.

SIO hosts panel on microfinance, poverty

By ELI WALLACH
Staff Writer

Students gathered in the Charles Commons Multipurpose Room this past Tuesday to watch a panel of speakers discuss microfinance in a Dinner and Debate hosted by the undergraduate organization Social Investment Outreach (SIO).

Microfinance is a type of banking service that authorizes loans for people who would not normally be able to take advantage of financial services.

The discussion was framed by the question of whether microfinance represented a developmental fad or a turning point in the fight against global poverty.

Professor Eric Rice, Director of the Engineering Management Program, spoke first on the topic. Rice stressed the importance of microfinance to local economies. In comparing the benefits of microfinance and investment in large manufacture, he noted how microfinance provided a much more stable local economy since it promoted a variety of small businesses rather than a dependency on one firm.

Kevin Kelley, Managing Director of East Coast Diversified Corp. Enterprise Development Group, spoke next. Kelley talked about his experiences with the innovative financial instrument and the importance of offering enough loans to stay financially afloat while maintaining intimate relationships with borrowers.

Last to speak was Rebecca Spradlin, Director of Communications for MicroRate Inc. Spradlin described the

role of her company in providing transparency to microfinance.

While the event was largely informational, it also was part of a larger fundraising campaign for SIO. Attendees of the event were charged five dollars at the door. All of the proceeds went to the club's KIVA account, providing microloans to people around the world. Other SIO fundraising events include an annual barbeque and frequent bake-sales.

Sophomore Jonathan Fong joined SIO as a freshmen.

"I love to travel and I have been on a few service trips to Belize, Guatemala and China and I have seen what these people have to go through and its rewarding in that way," Fong said.

Last year, the organization was able to raise approximately a thousand dollars. By splitting the money into loans of fifty dollars, SIO has been able to help out a variety of people around the world.

"We come together as a group and we find other specific people, either in a specific country or in a specific industry that we want to help someone in," Fong said.

Fong noted that the loans so far have been largely successful and that a few of last year's recipients have already paid the loan back. The money made back on the loan is then reinvested in loans to other people.

Beyond maintaining a KIVA account, SIO also participates in Stocks in the Future, a program that teaches financial lessons to middle school students in and around Baltimore.



COURTESY OF BEN KUPFERBERG
Fmr. Cyprus Central Bank Governor came to Hopkins.

phanides said.

After mentioning some of the most troubled Eurozone countries, including Spain, Greece, Ireland, Portugal, Italy, Slovenia and Cyprus, he went on to discuss how the problems escalated. Orphanides expressed his disapproval for the Eurogroup, which is made up of the finance ministers of the member states of the European Union that have adopted the euro.

"Greece is just 2% of Euro Area GDP. That debt problem would have been a tiny fraction of the problem, and had the Eurogroup sat down and discussed a way to solve that, we could have avoided the whole crisis. They face no legal repercussions, and tend to destroy economies," Orphanides said.

The European crisis revealed significant gaps in monitoring and enforcement of certain regulations and an insufficient respect



"BALTIMORE'S BEST BREAKFAST & BURGER"

- City Paper

- Baltimore Magazine

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NEWS & FEATURES

Psychologist speaks on sexual sadism

SEXUAL SADISM, FROM A1 in scientific publications, to contemporary advertisements that emphasize S&M and BDSM behavior. BDSM, which stands for bondage/discipline/slave/master, is defined by sadistic sexual behaviors that draw on thought, fantasy and imagination, as well as cruelty and a desire for power and control.

Dietz explained that material that would not have been acceptable to publish in a magazine in 1970 is, in fact, socially acceptable today.

After discussing works by the psychologists that pioneered the field in the attempt to understand it, such as Freud, Stekel and Hirschfeld, Dietz addressed the relationship between lust and cruelty in the imagination.

With case studies to support his assertions, Dietz said that such thoughts and experiences are not as statistically uncommon as many believe.

"[Most people] imagine it, but don't necessarily act on it," he said.

The statistic that most clearly represented the prevalence of this sexual

preference came from a 1993 study of 2,765 U.S. adults. Of the random sample, 14 percent of men and 11 percent of women reported having had personal experiences that were sadomasochistic in nature.

"I don't think the speaker realized how mainstream this topic really is," sophomore Sophia Fleming-Benite

It seems that S&M practices and desires are much more common and frequent than we realize.

—CHARLOTTE JOHNSON, FRESHMAN

said. "He seemed to expect more of us to be shocked and appalled by instances of consensual S&M."

Dietz also touched upon the correlation, or lack thereof, between psychological disorders

and S&M preferences.

"Based on the lecture, it seems that S&M practices and desires are much more common and frequent than we realize and almost none are connected to psychological disorders," freshman Charlotte Johnson said.

"I think the main message was that those involved in consensual BDSM show no characteristic clinical conditions," Fleming-Benite said.

In some cases, according to Dietz, pursuing such BDSM desires actu-

ally has a positive effect on those involved. In an Australian study, men who reported having had BDSM experiences also reported less psychological distress than men who had not.

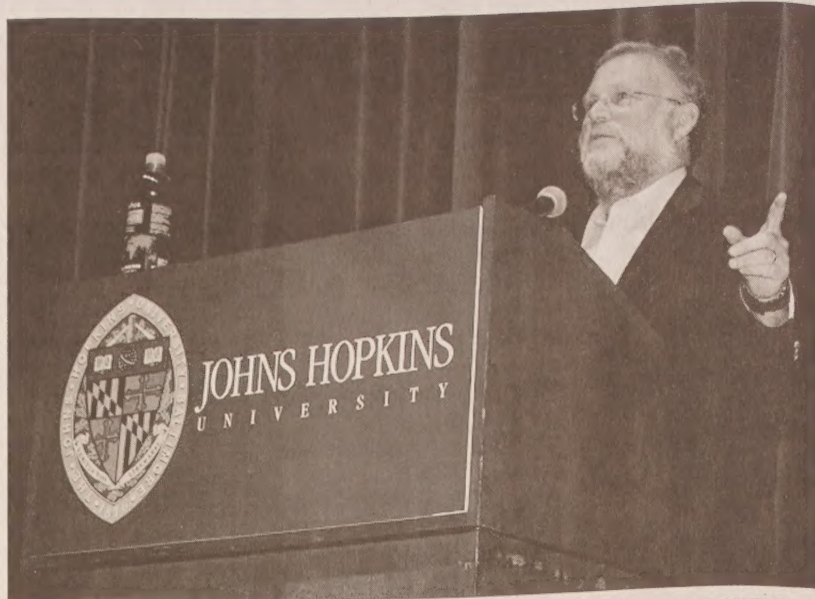
Attendees were visibly intrigued by the portions of the lecture that dealt with the S&M practices of U.S. college students, especially those practices that were not consensual and thus criminal in nature.

Students cited their curiosity about the topic as the main driver behind their attendance at the event.

"I thought it was interesting that sexual sadism is becoming more mainstream, at least as a conversation topic," Fleming-Benite said. "I was curious to see what the psychological aspects of this sexual preference are."

Students also attended the event because of academic interests.

"I'm very interested in psychology, especially sexuality, so when I found out about this lecture, I was hoping to find out more about a subtopic I know little to nothing about," Johnson said. "I was certainly surprised by how common the practice of S&M seems to be, but more so I was surprised by how biased the speaker seemed to be — especially how disgusted he seemed to be with the concept of S&M."



CATHERINE GUENTHER / PHOTOGRAPHY STAFF
Ben and Jerry's co-founder, Jerry Greenfield, speaks to students in the final FAS event of the year.

Greenfield draws crowd to Shriver Hall

GREENFIELD, FROM A1 were trying to do," Greenfield said. "So we thought, 'why don't we try to get together, have fun and be our own bosses?' And since we always liked to eat quite a bit, we thought we would do something with food."

After much deliberation, Greenfield and Cohen chose homemade ice cream as their product and Burlington, Vt. as the location for their first ice cream parlor.

The college town was an ideal place for the two to start their business because they did not have any competition.

However, without substantial job experience, procuring a loan to open up the store proved a difficult task.

"We didn't have any business experience," Greenfield said. "We didn't have any ice cream experience, we didn't have any assets and we didn't have any collateral."

Using a business plan adopted from a small pizzeria in New York, Ben and Jerry's received a \$4,000 loan and found a home in an abandoned gas station just off the main street.

Greenfield then discussed the evolution of Ben and Jerry's. To maintain customers during Vermont's frigid winters, the company searched for alternate methods of distribution. Thus, Ben and Jerry's ice cream was soon delivered via Volkswagen and after that via truck, a distribution move that quickly spread the product and business across the Northeast.

Greenfield also addressed the company's shift from a focus on profitability to a synthesis of profit and good works.

"There are a tremendous number of unmet social needs and not nearly enough money to go around. We began to wonder, 'What could we do?

What could our business do?' We started by thinking about the definition of business," he said.

"[Business] is a combination of organized human energy plus money, which equals power," Greenfield said. "In fact, it's become clear that business is really the most powerful force in our society."

Utilizing the power and influence of their company, Ben and Jerry's sought to address social concerns largely ignored by most businesses.

"If business is such a powerful force and the people running businesses are good, caring people, then why are businesses not doing more to address the growing social and environmental problems in our society?" Greenfield said. "The reason, we came to understand, is that you only get what you measure and in business what we measure is profitability."

Greenfield stressed how Ben and Jerry's sought to utilize the power of business by measuring success not just by profit but also by how the company is able to improve quality of life for its employees and customers.

Internalizing this new method of measuring success, Greenfield and Cohen sought out ways to integrate social and environmental

concerns into the company's everyday activities.

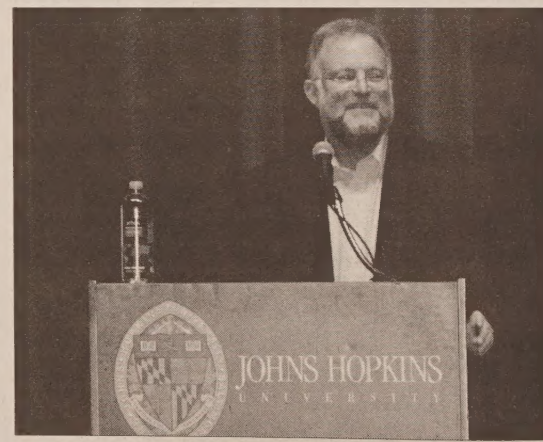
A prime example of this integration is Ben and Jerry's partnership with Greyston Bakery in Yonkers, New York. Ben and Jerry's purchases brownies used in recipes such as Chocolate Fudge Brownie and Half Baked from this bakery and thus sustains local businesses.

Similar integration efforts can be seen in the company's PartnerShops, which are non-profit organizations that provide job training and experience for those who face employment barriers.

"What we have been learning at Ben and Jerry's is that there is a spiritual aspect to business, just as there is to the lives of individuals," Greenfield said. "As you give you receive, as you help others you are helped in return. Just because the idea that the good that you do comes back to you is written in the Bible and not in some business textbook does not mean that it's any less valid. As we help others we can be helped in return."

Following the talk, music was played and ice cream bars were served outside of Shriver Hall on Wyman Quad.

"Nobody gets ice cream unless they're gonna boogie," Greenfield said.



CATHERINE GUENTHER / PHOTOGRAPHY STAFF
Greenfield speaks about the creation of his popular ice cream business.

Divestment sparks on-campus debate

Professors and students discuss climate change solutions

By **ANDREA MICHALOWSKY**
Staff Writer

Refuel Our Future, a group dedicated to raising awareness on climate change, and Alpha Kappa Psi, the Hopkins business fraternity, co-hosted a debate about the possibility of divesting the University's endowment of fossil fuels stocks on Monday to commemorate Earth Day.

The event took place in the Charles Commons Ballroom. Approximately 100 undergraduate students, graduate students and professors were in attendance. A professor and a student in the Woodrow Wilson Debate Council sat behind each table, ready to argue over the merits of divestment.

Divestment is essentially the opposite of investment—it is the withdrawal of money previously invested in companies. In this case, it refers to moving money invested in stocks at fossil fuel companies to stocks in other sectors.

Only a portion of Hopkins's endowment is invested in stocks, and less than one percent of that is invested with fossil fuel companies; however, with an endowment worth over 2.5 billion, that number is still significant.

Cindy Parker, co-director of the Bloomberg School of Public Health's Program on Sustainability and Health and director of the Global Environmental Change and Sustainability program, began the debate by speaking about the urgency of climate change and the necessity for the Hopkins community to be actively involved in shaping policy.

"[We need to] jumpstart the fossil fuel divestment movement," she said.

Bruce Hamilton, the Director of Undergraduate Studies in Economics, spoke for the opposition. He agreed that climate change is a pressing issue that must be mitigated; however, he argued that divestment was not the best option. Rather, he believes that Hopkins students and faculty should advocate for a carbon tax. Other suggestions he posed included putting solar panels on roofs, encouraging vegetarianism and lowering the temperature on thermostats. Hamilton argued that pushing for divestment would create a false goal and sense of self-satisfaction, thereby inhibiting further activism.

The debaters did not dwell on whether climate change is a problem that requires action — all of the panelists agreed that it is— but they also did not clarify the many issues surrounding divestment.

In his rebuttal, junior Oliver Simon, the student supporting divestment alongside Parker, accused Hamilton of presenting a carbon tax as a magical solution. He also claimed that turning down the thermostats was a comically minor solution.

Sophomore David Israel, the student debating with Hamilton, argued that the University does support efforts to combat climate change, but divestment is not the best method. Rather, Hopkins should lobby Congress and use the stocks to influence the companies.

Parker said that the University must use its money in alignment with Hopkins's mission, and thus divest. Israel in turn told the audience that Hopkins' primary obligation is to its students, so it should accrue as much

wealth as possible, even from fossil fuel companies.

Israel pointed out that divesting would have little effect on the companies. When asked about economic loss, Hamilton confirmed that divesting would have little effect on the endowment. Thus, it would simply be a political statement, a means to raise awareness about fossil fuels and climate change and demonstrate Hopkins' leadership in this arena.

Parker related it to the tobacco industry, where Hopkins led the way in divestment. She used the example of South Africa to demonstrate the potential efficacy of this method. Indeed, Hampshire College has already divested and student groups at Harvard University and Tufts University, among others, are pushing for similar action.

The last question, raised by a cameraman at the back of the room, suggested that a carbon tax would burst "the carbon bubble," making divestment necessary from an economic point of view. Hamilton agreed with this statement, and the debate ended on that final note of agreement.

After the event, Sophomore Jon Smeton, President of Refuel our Future, stressed the importance of debates like these to educate people on the pressing issues revolving around climate change and their immediate as well as distant impacts.

"I've heard from a lot of people that they came out still debating the topic and that they came into their rooms and debated their roommates," Smeton said. "The fact that these kinds of conversations are happening shows that, at least in that respect, we have been successful."

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Majority backs ban on campus smoking

SMOKING BAN, FROM A1
undergraduate portion of Hopkins are the first of many steps to decide if smoking should be banned on campus. Surveys and opinions are still being given in the several other institutions that are part of Hopkins. Faculty opinion will also be taken into account in order to have a better gauge on how Hopkins feels about smoking.

renowned institutions in the field of health, it only makes sense to oppose cigarette smoking on campus," Hamilton said.

Though over half the student population felt that smoking should be banned from campus, many students held strong feelings in opposition. For freshman Ariel Zahler, the issue represented something more than just a matter of smoking.

While I am... a non-smoker, I feel that Hopkins should not have the power to curb the students' right to choice

—ARIEL ZAHLER, FRESHMAN

"If the administration does choose to move in that direction, then the next step will be to form a Steering Committee. The Committee will be composed of student leaders as well as faculty and staff representatives (perhaps from Housing & Dining, Greek Life, Design and Construction, ResLife, Security, etc.) and will discuss the specifics of enforcing the ban. As a result, we cannot tell you what the penalties will be for smoking if Hopkins does go smoke-free because that is something that has yet to be determined by the Steering Committee," Hopkins Kicks Butts wrote.

Junior Chase Hamilton was one of the students who showed support for the ban.

"I just feel that at one of the world's most well

students to voice their opinions on the issue. For freshmen Emily Schoenfeld, the poll left out the option for compromise.

"I understand where the initiative is coming from, however it's not going to change the fact that there are students and faculty who smoke. Somebody working late on campus shouldn't have to walk far just to smoke a quick cigarette," Schoenfeld said. "I get wanting to live in a smoke-free environment but designating smoking and nonsmoking areas seems more realistic to me than an overall ban on smoking."



XIXI XU/PHOTOGRAPHY STAFF

Relay for Life survivorship committee member Alexa Ozer helped fundraise for cancer research by throwing pies at fellow senior Tom Prats.

Relay for Life rallies in support of cancer research

RELAY FOR LIFE, FROM A1
are distant from home.

There were 62 total teams, including many teams representing various Greek organizations such as Beta Theta Pi, Phi Delta Theta, Kappa Kappa Gamma and Phi Mu. Several student organizations also had teams as well.

Some teams hosted booths selling items such as baked goods and games in order to raise additional funds throughout the night to add to their team's total.

The event was split into three ceremonies: the Celebrate Ceremony, Remember Ceremony and the 'Fight Back' Ceremony.

The Celebrate Ceremony opened the event and focused on the cancer survivors in attendance.

Dr. Claire Snyder, a cancer researcher who works at the Johns Hopkins Hospital spoke about the foundation. She emphasized the importance of the Relay For Life event in raising funds for the American

Cancer Society. Her research is a recipient of the event's fundraising efforts.

The Celebrate Ceremony concluded with a celebration of the survivors. They were applauded and honored as the survivors took a lap around the track in solidarity.

Further into the night, the second ceremony occurred. The Remember Ceremony consisted of the Luminaria presentation.

The Luminaria part of the event was a time for honoring and praising loved ones who battled or are currently battling cancer. Everyone in attendance held glow sticks in honor of the people they partook in Relay For Life for.

The participants then took a walk around the track together and gazed at the illuminated Luminaria lanterns arranged into the word 'Hope' below. A slideshow with the names honored on the lanterns and music played simultaneously.

"We talked to a few people today, and they

overwhelmingly said that the Luminaria Ceremony was their favorite part of Relay and always is. It brings everyone together and acknowledges that we are all there because cancer has affected us in some way," junior Rose Schrott, co-chair for the event, wrote in an email to *The News-Letter*. "It allows us to step back from the bake sales and performances and remember what we are relaying for and how important the event truly is."

The event also featured the performances of various student organizations such as the Mental Notes, Vivaz dance group, Entertainers Club and the Sirens.

Furthermore, the event included the Miss Relay Pageant, in which guys from various teams dressed up in women's clothing and partook in a beauty pageant. The pageant consisted of a question and answer, biography and talent portion.

After their comedic per-

formances the 'ladies' had to scramble around and get as many donations as possible. The one who received the most money was crowned the winner.

The 'Fight Back' Ceremony encouraged attendees to reflect on the money raised, and the survivors. Ultimately the closing ceremony urged the importance of staying committed to the fight against cancer.

The Relay For Life event concluded with a final walk around the track. Those who stayed for the entirety of the occasion took an additional lap together as well.

This final lap wrapped up the 'Fight Back' Ceremony.

"I chose to partake in relay to show support for my friends who have been affected by the consequences of cancer. Although I cried at the more serious portions of the relay, I definitely walked away more positive and appreciative of what I have and what relay does," sophomore attendee Sarah Azody said.



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Boston strong, tweets from Tsarnaev, Cher's typos, Bynes' twitpics



Boston Red Sox @RedSox

16 Apr

Thank you from the bottom of our hearts for the outpouring of support & the playing of "Sweet Caroline" across @MLB
#BostonStrong
Expand

New York, touchin' Boston, reachin' out, touchin' Papi, touchin' Ellsbury. I hope someone recorded this moment on a special collection CDROM because we'll never hear this again. I want to show my grandkids, and I want my grandkids to tell the Yankee fans at school who say "forget about it" when someone brings it up, that I was there—I bought the special collection CDROM and they can come over and listen if they say "forget about it" one more time.



Jahar @J_tsar

16 Apr

There are people that know the truth but stay silent & there are people that speak the truth but we don't hear them cuz they're the minority
Expand

This is Dzhokhar Tsarnaev's actual Twitter account, and this is the actual Tweet he sent on the day of the Boston Marathon. In the days leading up to the bombing, his Twitter activity is relatively normal, and his cat is relatively cute. However, he sent his last tweet two days before his arrest, and so the Boston Police Department got the last word on Twitter: "CAPTURED!!!"



Cher @cher

16 Apr

I piss & moan about Ridiculous Things!
Wake up & smell 50\$ Starbucks b h!
Like is Hard & sad & glorious & bi-polar
& Lonely & MAGNIFICENT
Expand

Questions I wonder about this post:

- Why didn't she send this tweet on 4/20?
- Does she normally drink \$50 worth of Starbucks each morning?
- Who is her "b***h"? Can I be her "b***h"?
- Is "like" a typo for "life," or is Starbucks really like Hard & sad & glorious & bipolar & Lonely & MAGNIFICENT?
- Is she trying to be poetical or is she just unable to tweet on her iPhone keyboard?



Amanda Bynes @AmandaBynes

18 Apr

Hahaha

twitpic.com/ck59yh

Hide photo Reply Retweet Favorite More



I just put my "She's the Man" DVD in the shredder at work.

twitter

Twitter is over capacity.



Hannah Decatur

Tweets of the Week

This weekly column features some of the top posts around the Twitter realm that deal with the week's top stories in sports, politics, pop culture and all things news.

How to make some crazy grilled cheese

In honor of National Grilled Cheese Month, this week's recipe is Portobello, avocado and roasted red pepper, goat cheese grilled cheese. The name of the recipe certainly is a mouthful, but that's because this is not just your average grilled cheese. This is the classic grilled cheese stepped up several notches.

The exciting aspect about making grilled cheese, or really preparing any recipe, is that it's very easy to personalize to your own specific tastes. I'm not a fan of traditional yellow cheddar, so I've opted for a creamy version of the classic sandwich goat cheese. On this note, it is important to remember that you shouldn't be afraid to play around with the ingredients. If you're not ready to be adventurous with your recipes yet, then stick to the recommendations and your taste buds will certainly not be disappointed—or bored for that matter.

The ingredients you will need for this particular recipe are: 1 red bell pepper, 1 meaty Portobello mushroom, half an avocado, olive oil, salt & pepper to taste, garlic powder (optional), paprika to taste, two to three leaves of chopped fresh basil, 60 grams of goat cheese (approximately half of a small package) and 2 slices of pumpernickel bread or Italian herbs encrusted ciabatta, whichever your taste

buds are more inclined towards (although the sweetness of the pumpernickel does provide a nice contrast to the savory-ness of the inside of the sandwich). It should be kept in mind that the overall preparation time for this recipe is around fifty minutes; forty minutes to prepare and ten minutes to cook. Furthermore, note that the recipe creates one sandwich.

Sally Minn
Recipes

To start, preheat the oven to 450 degrees Fahrenheit. As the oven is preheating, lightly brush the mushroom with olive oil. Sprinkle it with the garlic powder, salt and pepper and paprika. After the oven is done preheating, place the mushroom and red pepper on top of a thin single sheet of aluminum and then place the sheet onto the oven rack. Leave the Portobello cooking for around fifteen to twenty minutes before removing it from the oven. Leave the roasted red pepper until the skin is blistering and turned black, which should be more or less a total of half an hour. Once the mushroom is cooked, place it on a plate to cool. When the roasted red pepper is done cooking, however, put it in a glass bowl and cover the mouth of the bowl with plastic wrap. Doing so steams the red pepper and makes the skin easier to remove. After the red pepper has cooled enough to handle, peel and rub the skin off using your fingers. Then, slice the roasted red pepper and the Portobello mushroom (now cooled) into strips. Brush a bit of olive oil on the inside of both slices of pumpernickel. Place the roasted red pepper and mushroom strips atop the inside of one slice. Sprinkle the chopped basil on top.

In a pan on medium high heat, place the grilled cheese with salt and pepper added to taste. Place the half avocado, sliced and mashed (so that it is chunky and thick) into the pan as well. Cook the goat cheese and avocado mixture until the chunks of goat cheese in it is melting and turns a nice brown. Make sure to stir the mixture before covering the pan with its lid. Open the lid after two minutes or so and stir once more. After the goat cheese in the avocado mixture browns and melts, turn off the heat and remove the lid. Spread the mixture out onto the bare slice of bread generously, press the two halves together and serve. While you are munching and allowing the warm gooiness to fill your mouth, remember that it is in honor of National Grilled Cheese Month. So Happy Holidays to you and enjoy the feast... I mean sandwich!

Sleeper hits of 2013 AKA music pretention for dummies

While last time I wrote about albums to look forward to, I'm now going to look at the underdog albums released so far this year. These are albums with little to no major press, meaning there is not much hype to make or break their success. Hearing albums of this nature can generally be refreshing and help you not be as reliant on what popular media of any variety tells you to listen to. While I note the ironic message of the column, you should still check out these groups.

Night Flight Europa – Palmbomen: The moniker for Amsterdam-based musician Kai Hugo, Palmbomen features a lo-fi atmospheric sound that combines 60's psychedelia with 80's italo-disco. This gives the entire album an almost tropical paradise-like vibe, which, coincidentally,

explains the name Palmbomen, which is Dutch for palm trees. Despite the experimental nature of the material, the songs are still quite poppy and catchy. The watery analog synths that compose most of the song's melodies will definitely bring one a sense of nostalgia and something new, wrapping you in further.

Letherette – Letherette: Another electronic music producing duo from the ever burgeoning electronic music scene of England, Letherette aims to set themselves apart by mixing the house music of Daft Punk with hip hop instrumentals made fa-

mous by producers such as Madlib and J Dilla. In general, the albums feeds more into the hip hop influences of the production duo, while still experimenting with the melodies and implementing the groove and feel of the drums and bass. The songs on the promising LP range from very energetic and funky to more laid-back material that is slow, but bass-heavy. Listening to

this album works pretty well with most occasions and moods.

No Thrills – Amateur Best: Producer Joe Flory first started making R&B inspired synth pop un-

der the name Primary 1 until he felt he hit a mental block. He laid low till he got his creative drive back and started releasing new material under a new name, Amateur Best. While still delivering the same infectious catchy synth pop that he made as Primary 1, Amateur Best is Joe Flory bringing it to another level. His voice is as soulful as ever and adds an extra edge to his material. The production throughout is top notch and the intricate melodies fit into one cohesive form instead of sounding overwhelming.

Adrift – Harry Fraud: While this is a free mixtape from producer Harry Fraud, it is probably one of the best hip hop mixtapes to come out so far this year. Not only does he collaborate with rappers such as Action Bronson, Rick Ross, French Montana, Juicy J, Mac Miller, Wiz Khalifa, Pusha T, Danny Brown, Curren\$y and Kool G, but

you will probably hear some of the best jazzy hip hop and trap beats on this tape. The production work is so well done, that you will find the collaborations really just complement the melodies. For any lover of rap, especially east coast material, this is the mixtape for you.

Heat Division – Dauwd: Another British electronic music producer, Dauwd, creates an ambient, but dance generating, vibe that mixes UK garage and bass with the techno made famous by the Belleville Three of Detroit (Kevin Saunderson, Juan Atkins and Derrick May). So while some tracks on this EP have a drive to them, Dauwd, in general, is more on the downtempo side of electronic music. Despite the sophisticated nature of the melody and rhythm of some of the tracks, there still is an inherent sense of coherence that is captured that helps keep Dauwd's material grounded.



Alex Hurowitz
Music Rx

An analysis of the misleading nature of Electronic Dance Music

BUT ALSO observations, rants, lists, thoughts, feelings, missed connections, haikus, confessions, furtive glances and, of course, sex.

That time I was stalked by a twelve-year-old

If you're 12-years-old and find remote members of your family on the Internet, I get that it's pretty tempting to friend them on every aspect of social media that you have. But if those family members have no idea who you are, then you should probably think first before you act like a stalker.

I'm not speaking from the experience of being a 12-year-old stalker, though I did send the occasional threatening email in my time, telling my friends to get on AIM and talk to me or else they were losers. Real mature. Instead, I speak from the experience of getting hammered with messages from my pre-teen second cousin.

It all started when my 16-year-old first cousin texted me to say that some rando with a bunch of pictures of herself wearing lipstick had added her on Instagram and then posted a photo of us and my other first cousins. Whoever this girl was, she knew our names and seemed to think she was related to us. My cousin promptly blocked her and, though we were sufficiently creeped out, there wasn't anything else we could do about it.

A few days later, I checked my ever-growing list of Twitter followers to see that someone with a similar name and lipstick in her profile picture was now following me. A similar person had also friended me on Facebook. After doing some investigations of my own, I found this girl's YouTube account, where she gives people makeup advice. I decided to message her and ask who she was, because she had obviously put some effort into finding me. Once I sent the message, a few previous messages

Okay did you accept my friend request

Can you accept my request please??? Goodnight

Are you mad at me for telling you that I'm your cousin

Hello?.

Do you have and iphone?

But I only know a few of my family like y cousins we have a lot of family

Does Jillian have a Facebook

U guys look so pretty on your profile pic r u still there. ☹

Do you have an iMessage then I can iMessage you !!!!

Terrifying excerpts from an up-and-coming stalker AKA what not to say to someone that you've never met.

popped up. She had messaged me a few times over the past week, calling herself my cousin and saying "hello?" after I hadn't answered. Though the messages were weird, I hadn't seen them because apparently Facebook is now a legitimate enough form of communication to have a spam folder.

She responded the next morning telling me that she was my cousin. When I stated that I had no idea who she was, she proceeded to name-drop EVERYONE IN MY FAMILY. Even the names of my younger brothers. When she finally stated her mom's name, I realized that she was the daughter of an estranged member of my family that no one had heard from in years. This made it very strange that she knew the names of everyone in my fam-

ily, as we weren't even sure if her mother knew all of that information. I texted my first cousin to confirm who this person was before I responded to her, but, while I waited, I received at least ten new messages from the mysterious cousin. She wanted to know why I hadn't accepted her friend request, c o m - mented on my cover photo, sent me a selfie (yes, still wearing lipstick) and gave me her email address so we could iMessage. When I still hadn't responded to her, she continued to type "hello, hello?" over and over again and asked me if I was mad that she had told me she was my cousin.

I finally responded and told her that, no, I wasn't mad, but was just confused because she had bombarded us on so

many social media accounts and posted a photo of us without us having any idea who she was. She responded by asking me why I hadn't accepted her friend request yet. I finally accepted it the next day, since she was actually related to me, but I made sure to put her on limited profile. She hasn't contacted me since.

While the entire incident was hilarious, I am pretty concerned for this girl and her voracious Internet activity. I hope not all preteens act exactly the same way. But, if you are a 12-year-old looking to connect with some people, maybe you should follow a few guidelines first. Don't post photos of people who don't know you. Please don't give out your email address (you never know, I could also be crazy and start spamming your iMessage). And, even if you don't harass people on the Internet, you are still far too young to wear lipstick.

Rachel Witkin Guest Columnist

Freaking out about growing up and graduating

So this is what it feels like to be 21 — older, allegedly wiser, and bigger (in pounds and personality), and that much more superior to the younglings, a.k.a. people who were born after me, in this world.

Having had a history of age crises since I was 10, which are only amplified when I get the annual reminder that I have aged another year, makes it seem only natural that I have had eleven admittedly self-imposed sucky birthdays. This one, being the first one I have had at Hopkins, was, fortunately or unfortunately — depending on what your idea of fun — extremely memorable. I remember blowing way too much cash at Spring Fair on chickens on sticks instead of booze from the beer garden, gaining eight pounds, discovering my first cockroach in Baltimore in my room, and finding out that I like fried Oreos better than their non-fried counterparts. All in all, a day filled with many milestones as I reached the 21 years of age became an even older version of me.

In an attempt to dissuade elders and any screeching, clawing cats they may bring along to picket outside my room and to accuse me of being ageist, I think it would be a good idea for me to declare that I am NOT at this point in the column. So, voila! My press release addressing my phobia of aging: I have nothing against "old people" — indeed, I cannot wait for the day when I have a

head full of grey hair that I can dye purple without bleaching first, can dictate even more children and adults without being questioned, and have the authority, as many children's books and television shows have promised me, be even more justified in telling more narcissistic stories to young folks. In fact, as an exemplary Hopkins student, I have been ahead of the game and am currently making retirement plans with friends — we have already decided that we are going to buy a hut and train cats in our spare time to make profit for our rent. But really, I love old people... and to all you old folks out there: please know that I, Carissa Ratanaphanyarat, want to be one of you.

My age crises stem from me reflecting on myself, or, more specifically, what I have done and will do. Free response questions like, what have I done this past year that I can be proud of? What have I done for others without being a tool? What am I going to do this coming year? How will these plans fit in with my long-term goals? What kinds of dishes can I make with instant ramen if I get to experience the waitressing-life-as-a-struggling-screenwriter that is so famed and dramatized

in Hollywood? And then there are fill-in-the blank questions like, how much of my hair has fallen out? Answer: ____ (I am drawing a blank. Haha, get it?) Or stress-inducing multiple choice questions such as: Identify what you will change about yourself for the coming year. A.) Your coca-cola addiction. B.) Your sheer and blinding awesomeness. C.) Your narcissistic jokes, or D.) All of the above except B.). And then, of course, there are the true and false questions. True or false? Did your narcissistic stories do any good for the chosen ones/victims you decided to relay them to?

(Answer: True, for the purposes of this column). True or false? You really want to be stereotypical and live with cats in my retirement hut. (Answer: True, for the purposes of the paragraph before this one.) These are just some of the many profound questions that come up during my birthdays. Yes, I give myself annual self-evaluations on my birthday. Yes, I give myself tests outside the classroom. Yes, I am an over-achiever. And yes, I am officially taking the Hopkins student stereotype to another level.

Some of these questions are not ones that you could just study for and know the answer

to. Maybe I could collect data to measure how much hair I lost, but why I would do that, or rather, admit to doing that, is beyond my comprehension. I could prepare solid back-up plans, and experiment with instant ramen to see what sorts of edible dishes I could make if I am a struggling screenwriter, but who knows if I would really be where I think I will be ten years down the line? An older me a year from now, who has experienced more of the world, for example, may find problems with and revise my current retirement plans. Perhaps, in the future, I would predict that living in a hut with so much estrogen and too many grumpy cats could potentially lead to a toxic living environment and disastrous explosions.

In summary, we humans, no matter how narcissistic and invincible and prepared we may be and think we are, age. I know that I am not the only person that questions their existence or future as I get older, but do note, if you have not already by this column's end—you are getting older and older, whether you are contemplating over that one measly grade point, debating whether trying to be an actress is the right route for you, pondering the meaning of life for your philosophy class, or suffering from an age crisis on your 21st birthday. So, spend each second wisely. I would say YOLO right now, but since I am hipster, that would totally be too yesterday.

Carissa Ratanaphanyarat #HopkinsStudent Problems

Ridiculously unhappy about the 'Happy Endings' ending

It is incredibly likely that Happy Endings, one of my favorite shows, is going to get canceled. The show is a favorite of a small cult following. The time slot in which it currently airs was moved to Friday nights at 8pm on ABC. Yeah, I know. I have to admit that I was a bit skeptical about it when it first aired. I think the name of the show had a lot to do with it. It's the Cougar Town curse. That also happens to be one of my favorite shows. I enjoy situational comedies that center around a group of friends who have fun together and know each other well and are able to work off one another. I am not, however, a fan of laugh tracks. Sorry, How I Met Your Mother. The people who see the value in the show have been trying to fight the cancellation via Twitter hashtag (#SaveHappyEndings) and other means. I am joining the fight. I find the show to be very enjoyable and I hope that if ABC does cancel it, another station will pick it up and save it.

lazy people like him, even if he may exaggerate that characteristic.

The characters also bash each other a lot, which is incredibly amusing. A lot of the plot lines revolve around proving a point to someone else in the group. Honestly, if you spend that much time with a small group of people, this is exactly what would go down. Even better, the actors have a fantastic dynamic and great chemistry. I would absolutely love to hang out with them because they are all funny and would make my life even more entertaining.

Elizabeth Sherwood My Favorite Things

Happy Endings consists of Jane, the type-A control freak; her goofy husband Brad; Jane's younger, lovingly (slightly less intelligent) sister Alex; her ex-fiancee Dave; Dave's best friend and college roommate Max who is gay; and Max's ex-girlfriend Penny who is a hopeless romantic. They have known each other for a while and have hung out together for many years, and have cartoon-ish fun adventures. Their lives are ridiculous and they know it. They go out of their way to deceive each other. In that way, it has the shenanigans of a Disney Channel show and the humor of an adult comedy.

The show can sometimes be compared to Friends and Cougar Town, yet it is way kookier and quirkier. One difference between these shows is that Happy Endings has a progressive gay character in Max. In the episode where the gang tries to help Max find his gay subcategory, they make a reference to the "sitcom gay," which is definitely not who he is. Max is hilarious and not stereotypical at all. He is my favorite character because I find him to be incredibly realistic and I wish more shows highlighted normal,

The actor who plays Max, Adam Pally, was first a comedian and currently has a stint on Funny or Die called "Riding Shotgun with Adam Pally." The actress who plays Penny, Casey Wilson, appeared as a featured cast member on SNL, which was one of the reasons why I started watching Happy Endings. And, Damon Wayans, Jr., who plays Brad, comes from a line of talented comedians and is the son of Damon Wayans from My Wife and Kids. The Wayans family created the Scary Movie franchise among other things.

ABC, please don't give up on this like Fox gave up on Arrested Development, which was canceled prematurely. That situation may not be the best example because Arrested Development had arguably better writers and more complex plotlines that suit a specific audience; one that is able to understand all of the jokes. Happy Endings is simpler, yet hilarious, and could be a favorite in a very lucrative demographic: college kids and young urban professionals. If ABC realized that the show has so much potential, they could market it like they market Modern Family, which gets hilarious Emmy promos. There are shows that we at college hear about all the time, like How I Met Your Mother and the Big Bang Theory. I only know of a few people who have even heard of Happy Endings and I bet most of my friends would like it. I implore ABC to give it a second chance. I find myself thinking about the show quite a lot and quoting it all the time. I would be incredibly sad and would hate to see it go.



COURTESY OF D.J. 267 VIA FANPOP
Happy Endings promotional still from the episode Everybody Loves Grant.

THE JOHNS HOPKINS

NEWS-LETTER

PUBLISHED SINCE 1896 BY THE STUDENTS OF THE JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY

Editorial

Polls present opportunity for SGA

This year, when students logged on to vote in the SGA executive elections, they were also asked to voice their opinion on the proposed smoking ban on the Homewood campus. A total of 2,860 students participated, which was the “highest voter turnout in recent SGA memory,” according to Rob Turning, Director of Student Activities.

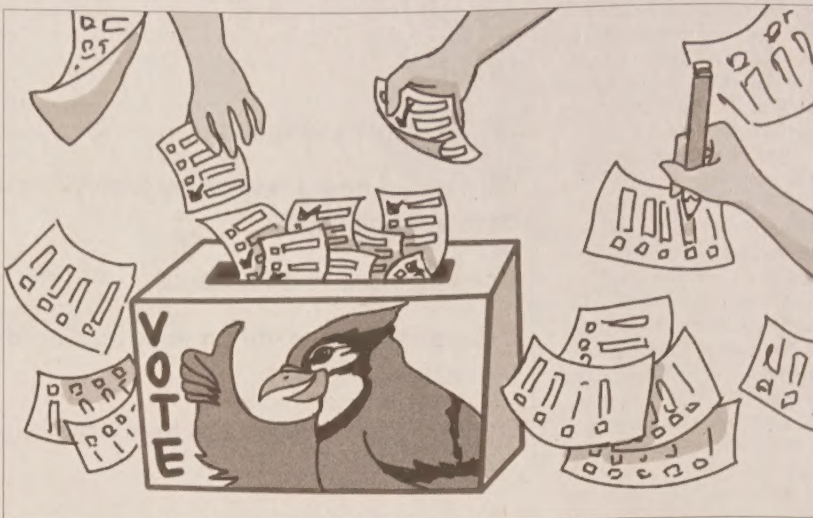
The editorial board is pleased with the high voter turnout and with the University’s decision to conduct this referendum. The SGA has struggled at times to reach out to the student body on a large scale. Currently, students are encouraged to email executive members with ideas and requests, and in theory, SGA meetings are open to all members of the student body. While both of these are appropriate measures, students unsurprisingly often choose not to pop in on SGA meetings or send emails to the executives. More importantly, while sending emails or sitting in on meetings may allow individuals or small groups of students to voice their ideas and opinions,

these channels make it difficult for a more substantial number of students to meaningfully participate.

The impressive level of participation in the recent referendum is a promising potential solution to any disconnect between the SGA and the student body. *The News-Letter* encourages the SGA to make note of this high turnout and use referendums in the future when appropriate. Online referendums will help benefit the SGA with a better understanding of how the student body stands on certain matters. Students’ voices will be more clearly heard, and their ability to directly impact matters in the school community will increase, which in turn will encourage more participation and higher turnout in elections. The SGA should take care, of course, to ensure it only uses referendums for significant and relevant issues on which the student body would want to weigh in.

Online voting will not eliminate all of the communication problems between the student body and the SGA, but it represents a big step in the right direction.

Annie Rhee



LETTERS POLICY

The Johns Hopkins News-Letter welcomes letters to the editor. Letters must be e-mailed to chiefs@jhunewsletter.com for inclusion in a Thursday issue. All letters received become property of The News-Letter. The News-Letter reserves the right to edit for space, grammar and clarity. Letters must include contact information and cannot be anonymous. The News-Letter reserves the right to limit the number of letters printed.

Debate promotes necessary dialogue

Students and faculty came together on Monday to debate the merits of fossil fuel divestment. Refuel Our Future, a student group spearheading efforts to convince the University to divest its endowment in fossil fuels, and Alpha Kappa Psi, the business fraternity, co-hosted the debate. Divestment would entail the University getting rid of any stocks in fossil fuel companies. Professors Bruce Hamilton and Cindy Parker partnered with two members of the Woodrow Wilson Debate Council to argue their sides of the case.

The editorial board commends Refuel Our Future and Alpha Kappa Psi for directing increased student attention toward this important issue. Climate change is a real problem and needs to be addressed. Hopkins, with its history of scientific research and world-renowned faculty, is a perfect place to start. This debate is important not only for its substance, but also for its form. Involving both students and professors contributes to a more comprehensive and inclusive dialogue, and it helps to bridge the faculty-student divide here at Hopkins.

But Hopkins has more than just great professors who conduct some of the world’s most impressive research; it also has some pretty smart students. Often, students bring new ideas to the table. The ideas of Generation X will inevitably differ from those of Genera-

tion Y. To this end, it is particularly important that this debate featured representatives from each cohort. Progressive, reform-minded activism is one of this generation’s most notable features, and we’d be mistaken to ignore it.

This debate also illustrates the importance of faculty-student interaction. Allowing a faculty member to debate alongside a student is unfortunately a rare occurrence here at Homewood — and in the rest of the U.S. for that matter. Too often, professors are regarded by students as talking heads at the front of a large lecture hall who retreat to their offices to continue their research after completing their teaching obligations. Office hours offer some opportunity for interaction, but students and faculty are largely worlds apart. Essays and midterm exams are returned with a few comments and grades, often marked by TAs. European universities like Oxford and Cambridge realized centuries ago that this model of teaching would be ineffective. Hopkins, along with the rest of the country, needs to do the same. This debate is a good start.

Student involvement is not only conducive to education, but it’s also a requisite component in the discussion about divestment. After all, it’s our money that funds the University. Any final decision made by the administration must account for student opinion.

THE JOHNS HOPKINS

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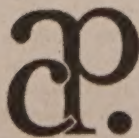
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OPINIONS

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GOP generation: Can Millennials rebuild the party?

By BEN SCHWARTZ

We are the Millennials, the generation born from 1980 through 2000 — born in the last century, come of age in the new millennium. Millennials voted for Obama 60 percent to 36 percent over former Governor Mitt Romney in the 2012 presidential election. The president captured an even larger share, 66 percent to 31 percent, in his 2008 win over Senator John McCain. What, in that case, does the Millennial generation have to do with the rebirth of the Grand Old Party, the party of Lincoln?

Younger generations almost always face criticism from older generations and the Millennial generation is no exception. Baby Boomers were lambasted as sexually permissive. Generation Xers were condemned as materialistic slackers. Psychiatrist and Fox News contributor Keith Ablow, who graduated from the School of Medicine in 1987, wrote earlier this year that Millennials are “deluded narcissists” who are “doing anything to distract themselves from the fact that they feel empty inside and unworthy.” Ouch.

The Ablow attitude was reflected in comments Romney made last month during an interview with, what do you know, Fox News. The former Republican presidential nominee failed to walk back — and reiterated the flawed logic of — his statement after the election that “gifts” by the president to young voters and minorities in the form of student loans and health insurance contributed to the Republican

ticket’s defeat. (Romney disregarded the “gifts” he pledged to give the wealthy and seniors, of course.) In fact, it is not that difficult to connect the dots. The same people who think Millennials are self-centered and selfish think we voted overwhelmingly for Obama because he gave us “gifts.”

According to the Pew Research Center, Millennials are actually a far cry from the deluded narcissists whom grouchy old men make us out to be. Growing up with YouTube just a click away has not made us any more likely to say fame and fortune are important life goals. In fact, 86 percent of Millennials say fame is *unimportant*, just a tick down from 87 percent among older generations. On the flip side, 21 percent of Millennials outweigh 20 percent among older generations who say “helping others in need” is the most important thing in life. Millennials are also a bit more likely (52 percent to 50 percent) than members of older generations to say that “being a good parent” is their most important life goal.

The authors of the Pew study note that “while generations may have personalities, they are not monolithic.” Nevertheless, the authors ever-so-cautiously characterize the Millennial generation as “confident, self-expressive, liberal, upbeat and open to change.” Ablow and others on the far-right sweepingly call the Millennial generation bad names, not because the data backs up the “deluded narcissists” claim, but because they are afraid of a new America that is highly diverse (only six in ten Millennials are non-Hispanic whites), more likely to self-identify as liberal and toler-

ant, supportive of progressive social and economic policies, more politically active, and thoroughly optimistic despite the trials and tribulations of the Great Recession and its aftermath.

Millennials are who they are because of the times they have lived in. We are the children of the peaceful and prosperous Clinton-era, jolted out of childhood by black smoke over Manhattan, fear mongering on Capitol Hill and blood on the streets of Baghdad. We are the children of Dr. Seuss picture books and PBS’s “Arthur,” who watched their world get darker in lockstep with *Harry Potter*’s Hogwarts and *The Dark Knight*’s Gotham. We knew dial-up Internet and Windows 98 but now know LTE wireless broadband and Facebook. We are the teenagers of mismanagement at the White House and crashing markets on Wall Street who chanted “yes, we can” in 2008.

It is *not* that the political parties ought to pander to the whims of the youngest generation. It is that the Millennial generation *knows* what works and what doesn’t. And we are well-educated and well-connected enough to know what we want the future to look like.

The Republican Party is wandering aimlessly in the political wilderness. The Republican National Committee, in its “Growth and Opportunity Project” report, last month took the party to task for everything from poor “outreach” to young voters and minorities to use of outdated technology—everything, that is, except its policies.

The truth is the GOP hasn’t lost the popular vote in five out of

the past six presidential elections because of faulty messaging. The Republican Party has lost and will lose in 2016 and beyond because its platform remains stale and its base remains nuts.

A recent Gallup poll found that the top criticism of the GOP is that the party is “too inflexible.” That is an understatement. The Republican Party will have to overcome intense, inherent intransigence if it wants to once again be a national political party.

The Millennials must build a new Republican Party, true to the legacy of Lincoln. We must build a new GOP that embraces civil rights and civil liberties with all of the vigor of the libertarian wing, works for a “smarter” federal government with the eye of a successful and socially responsible CEO (instead of seeking to “starve the beast” and deconstruct federalism), has a forceful but nuanced national security vision, acknowledges scientific facts *and* the role of faith, and proposes private-public *solutions* to the crises of climate change, health care, and so on.

As counterintuitive as it sounds, having an opposition party in tiptop shape is incredibly important for the well-being of the Democratic Party. More importantly, having an intelligent, energetic conservative movement is the key to solving the challenges of twenty-first century America. The question is, how long will the Millennial generation let the Republican Party wander?

Ben Schwartz is a freshman Public Health Studies and Economics double major from Pittsburgh, Pa. He is a staff writer for The News-Letter.

Five things I’ve learned during my freshman year

By AISHWARYA RAJE

My very first article for *The News-Letter* was about the things I had learned after my first week of college. It feels like just yesterday that I still needed my campus map to locate Mergenthaler Hall, or I enthusiastically headed over to the FFC thinking the food was actually adequate. I have become a more experienced Blue Jay since then, and the ins and outs of Hopkins life are finally starting to settle with me. It would be a stretch to say I have had life-changing revelations since this past September, but I have definitely learned quite a bit. As freshman year comes to a close, I would like to think I’ve become a little wiser and perhaps able to impart some knowledge to the incoming class of 2017. Here are five things I’ve learned during my freshman year at Hopkins:

1. Arguably the most significant change presented by college is the feeling of independence. Having to do my own laundry and clean my bathroom on a regular basis was something that was a bit foreign. It was up to me to keep myself healthy; I didn’t have to report to my parents when I wanted to go out, and I was completely responsible for managing my time and making my own schedule. It gave me a small glimpse of what life would be like as an adult, which was partly scary and partly exciting.

2. Hopkins really redefines the word “homework.” In high school I used to think answering two questions at the end of a story for English class was a sufficient amount of homework, but I was quickly proven wrong starting September 4, 2012. I didn’t think I would ever be reading more than 100 pages of a political journal in one night, or forcing myself to start studying for a test a week in advance. Perhaps that is because the academic motivation is so high at Hopkins that it becomes difficult to slack off. The fact that there is always work I could be doing is quite telling of the level of the university we attend.

3. Coffee is a lifesaver. In high school, there were times when I really needed it just to get through the day. In college, that became every day. I never expected to be “that girl” who was constantly walking around with a cup of coffee, but after so many late nights with minimal sleep it really felt like caffeine was my best friend. You could imagine my immense disappointment when I found out the Brody Café isn’t open 24/7.

4. At Hopkins, everyone who is anyone is at the library on Sunday evening. I just want to find a nice, comfortable spot to do all the work I procrastinated on over the weekend, but unfortunately so does everyone else. The air is filled with tension and anxiety, but also with collaboration and encouragement. If you happen to be freaking out about a Monday morning chemistry test, chances are you will find at least one other person to freak out with.

5. Don’t be a cynic. There are far too many people who will go far beyond their duties just to assist you. All of the resources that are available to us (the Learning Den, Writing Center, professors’ office hours, the Career Center) were designed to help keep students on track. I learned that getting sucked into the stigma that Hopkins is cutthroat competitive would have definitely detracted from my experience here.

Oh, and always have a designated pair of frat shoes. Trust me, you’ll need it.

Aishwarya Raje is a freshman Economics major from Princeton, N.J. She is a staff writer for The News-Letter.

Misunderstood disease in dire need of funding and research

By MEGAN CRANTS

When I was in high school, I had a friend who was often mistakenly accused of being drunk. He stumbled around campus, hanging on to walls for support, and talked with a slow slur that was difficult to understand at times. The other students didn’t understand why he acted this way, and they shunned him for his abnormal behavior.

My friend and I were in a dark room photography class together when he first told me that the doctors thought he had ataxia. He said that he couldn’t go into the dark room with me because when he was in total darkness he felt like he was flying through space and didn’t feel connected to his body anymore.

Ataxia is a neurological degenerative disorder that affects coordination. In fact, the word ataxia literally means “without coordination.” Patients can have trouble balancing, moving any or all parts of their body, and often have irregular eye movements. Their speech is often impaired as well.

Patients usually develop ataxia genetically, though in some rare cases it has been brought on by constant alcoholism or eating gluten. It is diagnosed using family history, brain scans, blood tests, and clinical testing to look at motor and eye movement coordination. Usually, since it’s genetic, it develops in childhood. But one kind, Friedreich’s ataxia, sometimes has onset symptoms during adulthood.

Because it is a degenerative disease, it worsens over time and can eventually lead to death depending on the severity of the ataxia and when symptoms start showing. Death is often due to cardiac failure, respiratory complications or choking since the muscles involved in swallowing are impaired.

Even though we often know what is causing the problem, we still don’t know how to fix it. There is no cure, or even really treatment, for any of the ataxias. The best recommendation we give to patients at the clinic is to participate in physical therapy to extend their lives by a few years. Not much research is being conducted, since it is a rare disease

and only affects around 150,000 Americans (a disease that affects 200,000 or less individuals is classified as a rare/orphan disease).

Because it’s so rare, I was so shocked to find a club dedicated to the study of ataxia when I first came to Hopkins. I joined the Ataxia Ambassadors freshman year and now serve as the president, but it seems that no matter how much I advocate for our cause, I cannot get people to understand what it is. I’ve had people ask me if ataxia is a cult, and even my parents and friends ask me repeatedly to explain it to them.

My friend has already been confined to a wheelchair at age 20, which is common for FA patients, and cannot walk anymore. He has to physically lift his legs up to move them and he can’t stand up without support. It is a fast-moving disease and FA patients usually die in their 30s, completely helpless and trapped in their bodies, not unlike patients suffering from Lou Gehrig’s disease.

Unfortunately, there is so little I can do in the meantime. The Ataxia Ambassadors club advisor, Dr. Sarah Ying, often tells us that spreading awareness is one of the best things we can do for patients, so that’s what I try to do. The club hands out ataxia awareness t-shirts, holds fundraisers to raise money for research, and goes to the Hopkins Ataxia Clinic to work with the patients and learn all that we can about the disorder. I also tell everyone I know about it, even if they don’t want to hear it. I just can’t stand to think that my friend is dying and I can’t stop it from happening; I have to do all that I can to save him.

Until we find a cure, I am going to keep doing my best as a student to spread awareness and raise money. Hopefully someday I’ll go to medical school and when I get my license I will really be able to make a difference. In the meantime, I can only hope that I am making a difference in my friend’s life. If he really only has ten years left to live, I’m going to try to make them count.

Megan Crants is a junior Writing Seminars and Cognitive Science double major from Nashville, Tenn. She is the science columnist for The News-Letter.

Keystone XL is not the key to healthy economic progress

By KAUSHIK RAO

Last year, oil companies such as TransCanada, Valero and others pushed for the completion of the Keystone XL oil pipeline. The Keystone XL pipeline would carry heavy crude oil from the Alberta tar sands in Canada, through several Midwestern U.S. states, and down into the refineries in the Gulf of Mexico. A decision on the approval of the permit is expected by July. One of the main reasons for the pressure to approve the pipeline is the oil lobby’s marketing campaign that tries to convince Americans that increasing domestic oil production will decrease gas prices here in the U.S.

But the fact of the matter is that increasing domestic oil production does not decrease oil prices. Those in the oil lobby that argue for increased oil production in the U.S. conveniently neglect to mention that oil is a globally traded commodity that is highly manipulated by the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC). Oil markets do not act in the same way that markets for other commodities do, such as corn and steel. The OPEC cartel controls the supply of oil in the world at any one time by increasing or decreasing its production.

The U.S. is left with two scenarios: 1) America starts to buy less oil from foreign countries, which results in OPEC cutting production to decrease supply which increases prices or 2) America increases its own domestic production of oil to the point at which it no longer needs to import oil. This would be met with subsequent cuts in production by OPEC again which would keep world oil prices high. In both scenarios, Americans will be left paying the higher OPEC price because American oil companies would export at the higher OPEC price rather than selling the oil domestically at the lower U.S. price.

This brings us back to exactly why the Keystone XL pipeline will not help the U.S. economy. If the pipeline is built, American refineries will be pumping out more refined oil than ever before. But this will not increase the supply of oil because of the anticipated cuts in production by OPEC, and thus will not decrease the price

of gas in the U.S. If anything, the pipeline would increase the price of gas in the United States because the Keystone pipeline is first and foremost an export pipeline. It would divert oil from the Midwestern states and send it to the Gulf of Mexico where it will be sent overseas. Since Midwestern refineries would have less oil to work with, gas prices are expected to increase in the region if the pipeline is built.

The oil lobby also argues that the Keystone pipeline will bring 20,000 permanent jobs and 118,000 “spinoff” jobs to the United States. But this study was entirely funded by an amalgamation of oil companies and thus cannot be fully without bias. In an audit of the same study by the State Department, it was found that the Keystone pipeline would only create 5,000 temporary jobs for two years and 20 permanent jobs. Furthermore, the Keystone pipeline would destroy countless more jobs because of spills and leaks from the pipeline. The portion of the pipeline that has already been built has experienced 14 leaks to date. Each of these leaks destroys farmlands and businesses which are then required to shut down which in turn eliminates jobs.

In addition, the Keystone pipeline will increase the greenhouse gas effect in the United States. Burning the recoverable tar sands in Alberta will increase the earth’s temperature by a minimum 2 degrees Celsius. Current greenhouse gas effects have already contributed to extreme weather events such as Superstorm Sandy which inflicted nearly \$80 billion in damages and cut 86,000 jobs from the United States.

America needs to move away from an economy that is so dependent on oil. Alternative energy is the future and the U.S. government needs to invest more in its development of different types of alternative energy, which will create more permanent jobs. Oil is the past, and blocking the Keystone pipeline is the first step toward preventing more damage to the American economy.

Kaushik Rao is a sophomore Political Science and Economics double major from Yorba Linda, Calif. He is the economics columnist for The News-Letter.

**3.87 GPA.
1563 SAT SCORES.
FUTURE RHODES SCHOLAR.**



THICK AS A BRICK WHEN IT COMES TO CROSSING THE STREET.

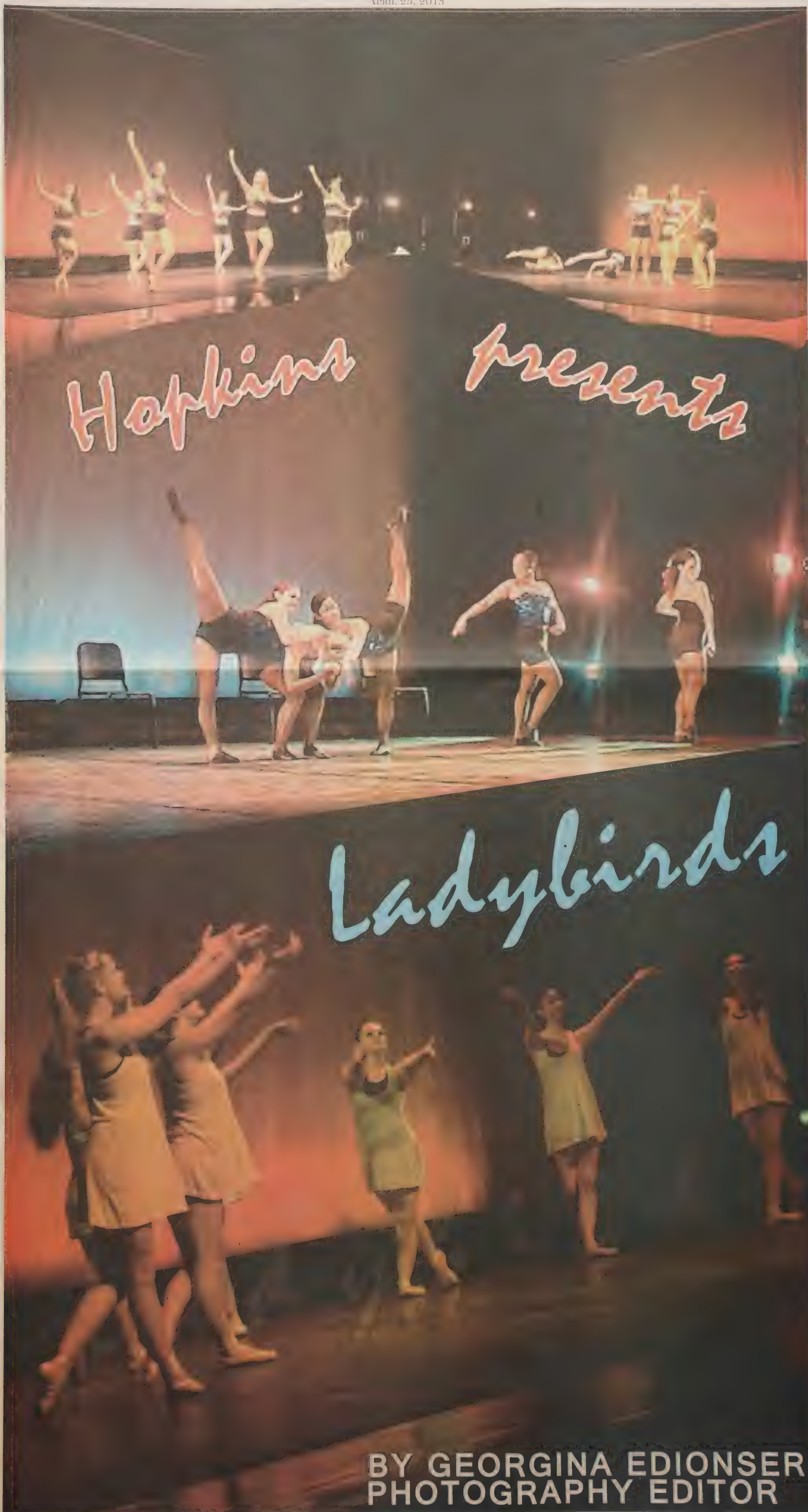
You're smart, and you've got the class schedule to prove it. Engineering Thermodynamics, Riemannian Geometry and Advanced Portuguese are no match for you. Then why is it hard to remember to be alert when crossing the street? Odds are the guy driving the SUV barreling toward you is no rocket scientist. So you've got to be street smart, as well as book smart.

Be A Road Scholar.

THE B SECTION

Your Weekend • Arts & Entertainment • Cartoons, Etc. • Science & Technology • Sports

APRIL 25, 2013



BY GEORGINA EDIONSERI
PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

YOUR WEEKEND APRIL 25-28

A senior's graduation bucket list

By ALEXA KWIATKOSKI
Your Weekend Editor

Hopkins Commencement recently released a bucket list for the graduating senior class. I've completed most of it (at least the parts I want to do), but there are a few items I'd still like to check off before I leave this spring.

First, I have to confess that I haven't actually been to the Farmers' Market. I know I should have gone by now, considering I've been here for four years. And I've planned on it many times; it's just that I find it hard to give up my lazy Saturday mornings. But this May, after classes and exams are over, I will definitely be there. No matter what, it's finally going to happen.

I'd also like to go to Bengie's old-school drive-in theater in Middle River, which has been around for almost 60 years. I've never

been to a drive-in movie, and Bengie's is supposed to have one of the biggest screens in America. But I don't have a car, so I'll have to wait patiently until someone decides to take me.

Another thing I'd like to do is go to the Preakness. I love horses, but I've never been to a race before. The Preakness is a big one, and since I'm not likely to be in Kentucky anytime soon, this seems like my best chance.

Luckily, the Preakness is on the schedule for senior week, so I'm all set to check this item off.

The bucket list also suggests boating around the Inner Harbor. I've been to the Harbor many times, but I've never gotten in one of those paddle boats. I'm sure it'd be nice to float around the harbor with some friends on a nice spring day. This shouldn't be too hard to accomplish before I leave.

This isn't mentioned on the official Commence-

ment Bucket List, but I want to add the Maryland Zoo to my own to-do list.

I've been to the National Zoo in Washington DC, which is supposed to be bigger and nicer. But the Maryland Zoo is right here in Baltimore's Druid Hill Park, so I think I should take advantage of the opportunity. Maybe I'll check out some of the fun events they have planned for this spring, like breakfast with the animals.

Finally, I want to attend the Maryland Film Festival this May. There are around 50 full length and 75 short films showing in the Charles Theater and the Brown Center at MICA. Of this year's choices, I plan to watch Augustine, Good Ol' Freda, and Prince Avalanche, and a few others if I don't get too bogged down studying for finals.

It's surprisingly difficult to track down the festival's logistics, but I've done some research, and you can attend each screening for \$10. (Unless of course you'd like to pay \$325 for the all-access pass.)

I only have about a month left until I graduate from Hopkins, but I'm determined to accomplish these tasks and more. Baltimore has been my home for four years, and I want to make the best of my time in this quirky, fantastic city.



COURTESY OF WWW.THEMOTET.NET

The Motet will be one of many small bands playing their unique genre of music this weekend in Baltimore's venues.

Listen to quirky bands for stress relief

By CONNOR JACOBS
Guest Columnist

With the end of the semester approaching, the pressure is on to study for finals. But take some time to refresh yourself with some live music!

Connor Jacobs
Guest Columnist

First up is the jamtronica band The Werks on Friday 8 p.m. at The 8x10. These guys will bring a psychedelic electronic rock jam party to the best stage in town.

The Werks have made their way around the festival circuit and frequently back up jamtronica legends such as Lotus and STS9 when not headlining their own gigs.

Opening for The Werks is a local power trio with roots in rock, reggae and funk - Second Self. Both of these groups have free

music to stream online, so check 'em out even if you can't make it to the actual show!

There's also a chance to experience a tribute band this weekend at Rams Head Live on Saturday with doors opening at 8 p.m.

Special Species — The Pink Floyd Experience, has been hailed as one of the top Pink

Floyd tribute groups in the Mid-Atlantic. (There are so many across the country, that this actually is meaningful.) The unique audio and visual experience is meticulously recreated to please even the most die-hard fans.

While these groups will certainly put on a show to remember, the must-see act this weekend is without a doubt, The Motet. They will once again bring their Funk is Dead show to the

Baltimore Soundstage from their home base in Colorado at 7 p.m.

The show features funkified and electrified versions of Grateful Dead tunes. These dudes go all out. Leader and drummer of the band David Watts brings his rotating cast of top-notch musicians, including three vocalists, to guarantee a non-stop dance party.

Opening for this all-star group is Sophistafunk. They describe themselves as a "funky, grimy mix of hip-hop, [with] live drums and Moog savagery." If that isn't enough to get you to visit their bandcamp page, then I don't know what would.

The best thing about living in Baltimore is having options that span the musical spectrum. If you don't see something you like here, check out some of the smaller venues in town.

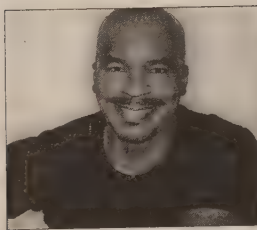
You may not have heard of the acts, but you might just find your new favorite band!



COURTESY OF BALTIMORE FARMER'S MARKET VIA FACEBOOK
Fresh flowers are just one of many tenderly grown products from the farmer's market.

JHU and B'more Happenings

Thursday Apr. 25



BALTIMORECOMEDY.COM

David Alan Grier
8 p.m.
Baltimore Comedy
Factory

Tony Award nominee David Alan Grier will perform stand up throughout this weekend. The multi-talented Grier has been named one of Comedy Central's "100 Greatest Stand-ups of All Time". He is active in Broadway, television and film.

Topdog / Underdog
7:30 p.m.
Everyman Theatre

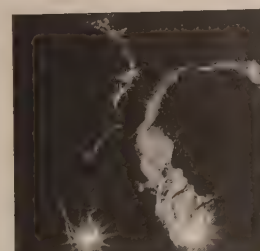
Winner of the 2002 Pulitzer Prize for Drama, Topdog / Underdog is a dark comedy play

about two African-American brothers, ironically named Lincoln and Booth. The brothers are constantly at odds in this darkly funny story about family.



EVERYMANTHEATRE.ORG

Friday Apr. 26



BEACHHOUSE2012TUMBLR.COM

Beach House
8 p.m.
The Lyric Opera
House

Baltimore natives Victoria Legrand and Alex Scally, known collectively as the indie duo

Beach House, are returning to perform songs from their 2012 album, "Bloom".

Saturday Apr. 27



TICKETMASTER.COM

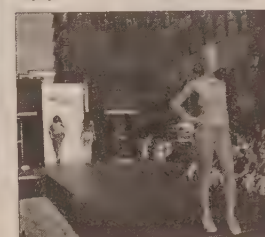
Jerry Seinfeld
7 p.m. & 9:30 p.m.
Joseph Meyerhoff
Symphony Hall

Comedian Jerry Seinfeld known for his TV series, "Seinfeld", will be doing stand-up for two shows this Saturday. His performance will feature jokes about the little things in life.

Harbor FashionEASTa Fashion Show
1 p.m. - 6 p.m.
Alicanna Street

Sponsored by Har-

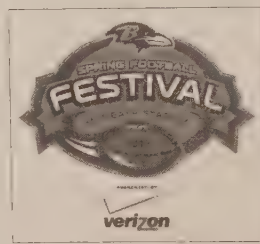
bor East, this outdoor event features a spring fashion show, live music, cocktails and in-store specials. WBAL-TV's Ava Marie and Ravens kicker Justin Tucker will make special appearances.



HARBOREAST.COM

Ravens Spring Football Festival
12 p.m. - 4 p.m.
M&T Bank Stadium

The city's beloved Baltimore Ravens will be hosting their annual Spring Football Festival during the 2013 NFL Draft. Ravens players, cheerleaders, team mascots and the Marching Ravens will all be there. Attendees will also be able to watch the final rounds of the draft live at the stadium.



BALTIMORERAVENS.COM

Chris Tucker
7:30 p.m.
DAR Constitution
Hall

Comedian Chris Tucker, best known for his role in the "Rush Hour" series with Jackie Chan, will perform stand-up in DC on his comeback tour.



EVENTFINDA.COM

Mental Notes
Spring Concert
8 p.m.
Mudd 26

The Mental Notes will perform this Saturday with a

mystery theme involving hot twins, a pizza guy and a camera.



FILE PHOTO

Sunday Apr. 28



TWITTER.COM/
SARUJAYARAMAN

Saru Jayaraman
Reading
1 p.m. - 2 p.m.
JHU Barnes &
Noble

Author Saru Jayaraman will be discussing and signing copies of her book, "Behind the Kitchen Door", in which she explores the larger implications of eating out.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Vocal Chords impress Witness Theater “24 hour show” wows crowd

Student-run play combines Facebook suggestions into a collection of short, engaging plays

By AUBREY ALAMANZA
Copy Editor

An array of classic videogame characters including Mario, Luigi, Princess Peach, Pikachu and Pac Man — more commonly recognized as members of The Vocal Chords — hosted the Hopkins community in the Bloomberg Auditorium for their 18th annual Spring Concert.

The coed a cappella group entertained viewers with their hysterical, interpolated plotline of characters trapped in a library game.

Attendees could not contain themselves as the performers mocked Reference Desk workers, the ‘D Level Challenge’, pesky librarians and the ever familiar closing-time announcement. Gloom counterbalanced the comic relief, however, as the April 20th show marked the end of an era for three

graduating seniors. Eldest member Mike Van Maele, Amanda Levine and Marketing Manager Grecko Song were each gifted, corded and spotlighted with Senior Solos as they bid farewell to their Vocal Chord careers. While these talented veterans prepared to retire, a new group of a cappella faces emerged.

Performing for the first time, Major 7 took the stage as The Vocal Chords’ guest act. Freshmen Jaquain Sloan and Jackie Choi delivered goose bump-worthy covers of “Girl on Fire” and “Skyfall.”

This seven-person (and therefore remarkably exclusive) a cappella group arose only last semester, but managed to recruit some of Hopkins’s most endowed singers.

A majority of these vocalists simultaneously belong to other Hopkins a cappella groups; Ari SEE VOCAL CHORDS, PAGE B4

By ALLI GRECO
Staff Writer

On Sat., April 20, the Hopkins Witness Theater group presented its “24 Hour Show” in the Arellano Theater in Levering Hall.

Witness Theater’s challenge was to write, direct, produce, and act out plays based on a collection of crazy, fun, and whimsical suggestions from the event’s Facebook page.

The suggestions had no limits, and sometimes consisted of single words, full phrases, or even creative images.

Some ideas included mentioned killer tomatoes, a sixty-minute motion picture about forty minutes of content, feminism, rice cakes, cars, diva salesmen, and babies.

There were even more creative suggestions such as a theatrical version of an iPhone game, a musical about shucking corn and a depiction of Dr. Sigmund Freud on a date.

Witness Theater made very clear on its Facebook page that all suggestions were welcome and that students should have creative license to present all possible play themes.

“Say something you would like to see a play written about/include or provide a challenge for the writer... There are very few rules when it comes to writing for the 24 hour show and so it is only fair that there are even less rules for the suggestions... These are meant for inspiration, so you never know what little bits and pieces writers will grab onto and run with.”

After seeing the 24 Hour Show, it was clear that the student playwrights ran with the fantastic sugges-



GEORGINA EDIONSERI/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

The Witness Theater 24 Hour Show displays a wealth of creativity and imagination from students.

tions online and produced plays that were extremely entertaining and at times laugh-out-loud hilarious. The audience’s attention was held throughout each miniature production, the acting was superb, and the intimate setting of the Arellano Theater produced an intimate atmosphere where audience members were able to share an enjoyable experience.

Sometimes, in small theaters such as the Arellano Theater, lighting can be problematic, but the tech crew was clearly smart and strategic in how it focused light on each character and used light almost as another character in telling each story.

The actors themselves were also engaged in each play.

After only learning their lines a few hours earlier, everyone did an amazing job in immersing him or herself in each role and

putting on a high-quality production that the entire Hopkins community could enjoy.

It is obvious that there was very good communication among the playwrights, directors, and actors, or else Witness Theater would not have been able to present such an organized set of plays based on a wide array of topics.

Witness Theater not only organizes the 24 Hour Show, but also other productions.

It is an entirely student-written-and-staffed theater organization that produces four one-act plays, one full play, and other 24 hour shows.

Students are given creative license in crafting the plays and put in much time and effort into each play.

Especially within a university that is not primarily known as a theater hub, Witness Theater elevates the status of Hopkins’s theater program as one that

should be highly regarded in the future.

The Barnstormers, a similar Hopkins theater group presents other shows throughout the year that more students generally know about more than they do Witness Theater shows.

If Witness Theater wants to equate its high student talent with its marketing, it should certainly step up its publicity and get the word out among students.

The Witness Theater 24 Hour show Facebook page was effective, but only for a certain sub-section of the Hopkins population.

Fliers around campus and more campus-wide e-mails would undoubtedly attract a bigger audience.

Even so, the audience that came out for the 24 Hour Show on Saturday was impressed with the caliber of work that went into producing this wonderful theater experience.



LEON SANTHAKUMAR/PHOTOGRAPHY STAFF

Vocal Chords concert draws a large crowd at its recent spring concert

D.C. art exhibition conveys 1960s attitudes

By ALEXA KWIATKOSKI
Your Weekend Editor

In many ways, Pre-Raphaelite painting brings to mind images of youth in the 1960s.

The vibrant colors, the flowers, the long hair and flowing fabrics center on beautiful, yet somehow defiant women.

The Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood of the 19th century predates hippies by nearly 100 years, but something about Pre-Raphaelite artists’ avant-garde approach is reflected in the aesthetics of the sixties’ counterculture.

Perhaps that is why the Pre-Raphaelites exhibit at the National Gallery of Art in Washington D.C. seems so full of life.

The paintings of beautiful women and crisply rendered natural scenes draw on the energy and spirit that fuel all significant artistic and cultural movements.

Since the artists themselves were in their late teens and early twenties when they founded the Brotherhood, their images retain the vitality of youth also seen a century later in photographs of Woodstock’s flower children.

The National Gallery’s Pre-Raphaelite exhibition is extensive, but not overwhelming.

It is divided into several rooms, each given an overarching theme.

They cover topics such as beauty, nature, literature, history, and mythology.

Since the Pre-Raphaelites have British origins,

most of the pieces currently at the National Gallery are on loan from the London’s Tate Museum.

The primary figures on display are John Everett Millais, Dante Gabriel Rossetti, and William Holman Hunt.

There are also works by Ford Maddox Brown, Edward Burne-Jones, and William Morris.

These painters are united by their revolutionary conception of art.

The idea was to take painting back to a time before the Renaissance and Raphael, hence, the name “Pre-Raphaelite.”

Their works are influenced by the medieval style, and often feature scenes from British literature and history.

Depicting nature with a near photographic realism

is another Pre-Raphaelite characteristic.

The most famous Pre-Raphaelite painting is probably Millais’ “Ophelia” (1852-3).

This beautiful yet haunting work imagines the off-stage drowning scene in Shakespeare’s “Hamlet.”

Ophelia lies in a river surrounded by flowers. Her mouth remains eerily open, perhaps to suggest the mad and random tunes she sings right before she dies.

This painting speaks to a kind of forlorn feminine passivity, a beautiful woman pulled under by a powerful force she is either incapable or uninterested in fighting.

Ophelia’s death is ambiguous. It may be an accident, or it may be suicide, but either way there is an

element of self-destruction in her final act.

The model for Millais’ piece was Elizabeth Siddall, an artist who often posed for the Pre-Raphaelite painters.

She was a particular favorite of Rossetti, and became his lover and later his wife. Siddall overdosed on laudanum in 1862, and like Ophelia, her death may have a suicide.

Romantic intrigue was an ongoing theme within the Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood. One particularly famous Victorian love triangle occurred between Millais, the art critic John Ruskin, and Ruskin’s wife Effie Gray.

Since Ruskin was Millais’ friend and supporter, the painter used Effie as a model for his 1852 work, SEE EXHIBIT, PAGE B5



COURTESY OF WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

John Everett Millais’s, “Ophelia,” (1852) on display at the Pre-Raphaelite Exhibit at the National Gallery of Art

Peabody students produce own musical

By SAMUEL GLASSMAN
For The News-Letter

The majority of Hopkins undergraduates are self-described ‘former pre-med students.’ That is, their stories have similar underlying themes.

A student who arrives at Homewood and realizes it is nothing like what he or she expected or that they do not like the work they are doing. The normal response is to change one’s major.

Two students with a similar experience, however, decided to write a musical about it. “Music School: The Musical” will be debuting May 5 at 7:30 p.m. in Arellano Theater.

Juniors Joey Harrell and Alex Rosen are third year undergraduates, both majoring in Vocal Performance at the Peabody Conservatory.

Both began to notice an annual trend of decreased performance opportunities for students.

“We saw that opportunities were imbalanced,” said Rosen, “[and] we thought we could change that with the show,” Rosen said.

The two saw the musical as an opportunity for those students who had become disillusioned by their minor roles in opera choruses, and who were unimpressed by the small scenes programs at the school. Harrell and Rosen saw the musical as a chance for other students

to be on stage again, in a full production and renew their passions for theatre.

Regrettably, it turns out that big theater productions are not the norm at Peabody.

“[Peabody is] not the place where you will run into large scale musical theatre productions,” Harrell observed.

This statement places emphasis on Peabody’s inclination towards a more ‘classic’ approach to music, a trend that leaves many of those with musical theatre backgrounds, or voices not ready for mainstage opera roles, without options.

As students from extensive musical theatre backgrounds, Harrell and Rosen began to see opportunity in what was lacking.

“We decided that if there weren’t going to be opportunities available, we would make them ourselves,” said Harrell.

They eventually managed to accomplish this formidable challenge. However, it was by no means an easy process.

After two years of toying with what was really more of a joke than anything else, Harrell and Rosen had made little progress. They had only a basic plot and some roughly developed characters. “We brainstormed a lot and had a few different plots in mind,” said Rosen.

“It was such a huge project and no one was really convincing us. SEE PEABODY, PAGE B4

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Major 7 makes debut at Vocal Chords concert

VOCAL CHORDS, FROM B3 Messenger, Jaquain Sloan and John An originate from The AllNighters, Ben Ackerman serves as The Octopodes' assistant music director and Jackie Choi is from The Mental Notes.

Although fully capable of contending in the world of a cappella, Ackerman assured Spring Concert audience members that the Major 7 are here to have fun.

"We are just a group of seven friends who like to sing," he said.

Ackerman's modest foreword failed to mention that Major 7 has accrued nearly 25,000 views on its two YouTube videos, along with hundreds of praising comments. The enormously positive reception of Major 7 both on campus and virally may prevent them from lying low much longer.

Following Sloan and

Choi were a few stand-out performances by Vocal Chord members. Brad Foulke hit impressive high notes in "Some Nights" by Fun. Junior Kevin Quinn and sophomore Taylor Wiseman performed a steamy rendition of Peggy Lee's "Fever." Los Angeles native Amanda Levine also renewed a classic with her Senior Solo selection of Otis Redding's "Sittin' On The Dock of the Bay."

The Vocal Chords continued their tradition of welcoming back Alumni for the Spring Concert's final performance. The graduates relived their glory days, leading current members in "Insomnia."

After receiving the promised candy and demanding an encore, Vocal Chord fans surely look forward the group's next show, which will take place in the upcoming fall semester.

Peabody students base play on real life

PEABODY, FROM B3 Nothing came of it," Harrell said.

It seems, however, that Harrell's latter statement was not completely accurate — something did come of it. After getting serious about the musical, the two writers have achieved the creation of a story that boasts originality and sincerity.

"After a lot of rewriting, we began to see the beginnings of a real plot, one that held together and had an accessible and unique message... The show grew into a story about complex relationships and not just the success of one or two people," Rosen said.

"Originality ... with book, lyrics and music," Harrell said.

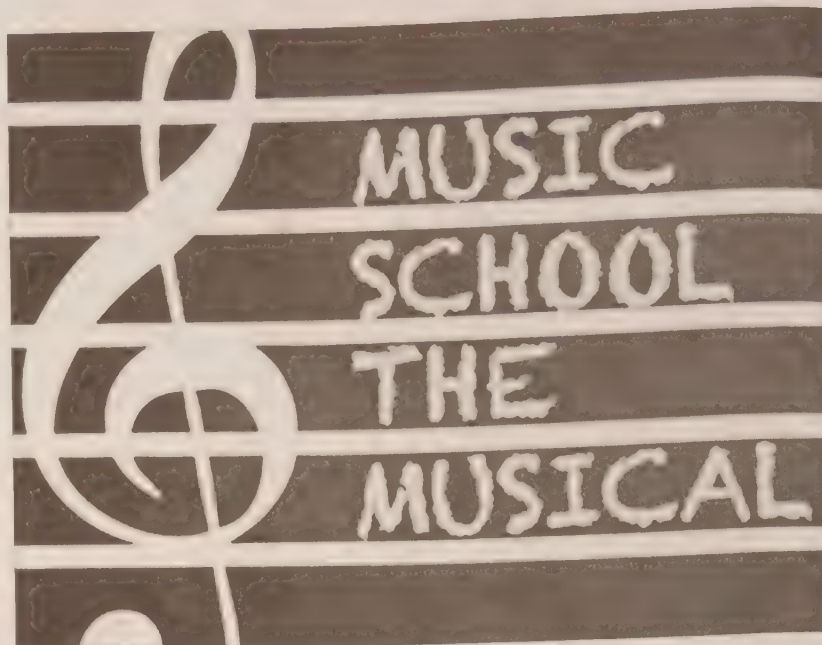
He produced and directed through collaboration with Rosen — originality that was achieved only after overcoming a series of equally novel challenges.

"Alex and I ... had absolutely no idea how to write a musical. We understand music, we understand performance, but writing a show is something completely foreign. But [after] hundreds of pages of notes, plot sketches and [deleted] scenes, the show ... started to write itself," said Harrell.

"[The characters'] adventure is purely fictional," said Rosen.

Harrell describes the show as deriving from his and Alex Rosen's own story of disillusionment.

"[The musical is] a parody of the basic idea of arriving at music school and being a little shell shocked," said Harrell. "And when the school's opera department abruptly cancels the fall opera [the characters] change the school forever ... [by] writing a musical."



COURTESY OF MUSIC SCHOOL: THE MUSICAL VIA FACEBOOK

Two students from the Peabody Conservatory plan to produce a new play about students of the arts.

"[The show] follows their journey, and the journeys of all the other students affected, as they defy all odds by writing and producing the musical."

For the astute reader, it is clear that in a way, the story is theirs. The enthusiasm of the real-life Joey and Alex is very clearly mimicked by their fictional counterparts. "This [enthusiasm] is what gives the show life," Rosen said. "This is what resonated with our peers."

It was through this enthusiasm that Harrell and Rosen gained the confidence of their colleagues and, quite possibly, the means to make the musical possible.

Directing and producing is an inherently difficult task in itself. Harrell notes that the challenge magnifies when friend and peers participate in something that has no guarantee, nor precedent, to suggest future success. It is in this aspect that the aforementioned

credulity makes all the difference. The show, in other words, is reliant on faith both in the story and in the ability of those coordinating it — a tall order for nascent writer-directors.

This will be Rosen's and Harrell's first written musical. The two hope to use the May 5 show to improve the overall production.

"[The goal will be] to workshop, revise, orchestrate and then start planning for a fully staged production in the fall," Harrell said.

They plan to submit the musical to theatre festivals and workshops, but are at the moment focused on improving and eventually putting on a final product for audiences.

Another major focus is, of course, on the money. This workshop will have been staged with a total budget of \$500, making its completion something of a feat. Considering the lack of external help, Harrell and Rosen see the up-

coming performance as a much-needed fundraising opportunity as well.

The debut will be a good indication of the show's potential, and a trying moment for the two artists. Harrell and Rosen will undoubtedly be looking to impress their Homewood peers in the form of a memorable show — perhaps even aim to change the school forever.

The success of the show will be measured in monetary terms — the artists remain hopeful that Johns Hopkins Alumni, Faculty and Deans will be impressed enough to support its completion. The writers can be contacted at musicschoolthemusical@gmail.com and also have a Facebook page at Music School: The Musical. The Hopkins student body will judge, however, and determine if indeed the show can live up to the name of Mr. Harrell's favorite song in it: "The Greatest Musical Ever."



LEON SANTHAKUMAR/PHOTOGRAPHY STAFF
The Vocal Chords sang new songs combined with old favorites.

The Place Beyond the Pines captures the essence of a family drama

By ELIZABETH SIEGAL
Staff Writer

If there is one thing Derek Cianfrance does well, it is constructing intimate, incomparable character development.

As a remarkably adept director, the images he captures of the simplest human interactions wholeheartedly sway one's opinions, without feeling as if something is being repeated over and over again. He is ambitious, but perhaps too much so.

His second feature film (but really his first in mainstream media, considering his 1998 feature *Brother Tied* was never released), *Blue Valentine* is proof of just how successful Cianfrance is at this specific skill.

Through a back-and-forth narrative that convincingly paints both the blissful courtship and subsequent depressive breakdown of a short-lived marriage between Michelle Williams' and Ryan Gosling's respective characters, Cianfrance creates a piece of art that achieves an intricacy in tracing its own interconnectedness.

Teaming up with Gosling for a second time in *The Place Beyond the Pines*, Cianfrance tries to do this once again, but this time on a much grander scale. Instead of a singular narrative, Cianfrance employs

the over-arching themes of legacy and consequence to tie together three different story arches that span over the course of fifteen years, using recurring symbolism and imagery to weave together the actions and traits of each character. What could have become just another story about the

THE PLACE BEYOND THE PINES

Starring: Ryan Gosling, Bradley Cooper, Eva Mendes, Ray Liotta
Director: Derek Cianfrance
Run Time: 140 min.
Rating: R
Playing at: The Charles

Set in Schenectady, New York, the first act of what Cianfrance labels a "triptych" surrounds Gosling's character, Luke (affectionately called 'Handsome Luke' by his local fans), a nomadic motorcycle stuntman for the state fairs who learns that one of his former flings, Romina (Eva Mendes), has given birth to his baby, Jason.

With a statuesque build, a canvas of tattoos, and his general motorcyclist allure, Luke is the physical embodiment of masculinity. Yet, it's his vast layer of insecurity beneath this surface image that makes his character so fascinating to watch, and in turn makes Gosling's performance so praiseworthy. Marked by a deep emotional wound founded by the absence of his own father, Luke is

haunted by the prospect of allowing his son to grow up with the same insecurities he has suffered.

In his warped sense of moral justification, supported only by his own feeling of helplessness, Luke decides to use his motorcycle skill set to rob banks, and thus provide for his family, despite the fact that Romina is with another man.

While Gosling makes the limited dialogue allotted to Luke extremely powerful, with emasculating voice-cracks every time he tries to assume power in the robberies and stuttered speech when trying to defend his dependability as a father, it is often the moments in which Luke says nothing that are most effective.

In a scene where Luke bludgeons another man into unconsciousness, his ability to quickly and silently soothe his baby son from

the surrounding screams of terror is so utterly shocking and yet remarkably expressive of his emotional complexity. In this unthinking act of volatility, Gosling's portrayal of paradoxical inadequacy somehow leads the audience to relate with the completely misguided individual.

As Luke begins to cross paths with the local cops, we are introduced to Officer Avery Cross (Bradley Cooper), a low-level cop, who is nonetheless very intellectual, and who is the son of a well known, albeit retired, judge.

From here, Cianfrance takes us into the second storyline surrounding Cross, a man who shares more with Luke than what meets the eye.

While on two opposite ends of the judicial spectrum, both Luke and Cross are struggling to maintain their family life, which surrounds their respec-

tive one-year-old sons. As a cop caught in the middle of multiple cases of corruption, Cross must also deal with his internal struggle of what is important: his reputation or his loyalty, and how far each of those will get him in his personal goals.

While Bradley Cooper reaffirms his versatility as an actor, delicately handling the emotional rollercoaster affecting his character within, Cianfrance allows his own talent to truly shine through his intricate narrative. The way in which Cianfrance captures the contrasting qualities between Luke and Cross is poetic in its essence.

While never outlandish in its claims, the narrative instead implements a certain subtlety that imposes a feeling that you're reading a book, rather than watching a feature film.

When the film begins

its third and final push home, the narrative begins to derail, and it is here that Cianfrance's ambition takes a turn for the worse.

Without giving too much away, the third section introduces the audience to the now teenaged sons of Cross and Luke, following both their interdependency and reflexive qualities in regards to their fathers. While this development in many ways completes the trajectory of the narrative, it becomes too independent for its own good.

For only about a half an hour, we are taken into the lives of two individuals who, up until this point, had only played symbolic roles. Cianfrance completes the idea he is trying to capture, but then takes it a step further, never quite reaching a satisfying ending.

Instead, as the thematic music plays out (a score by Mike Patton that is eerily amazing as its own entity throughout the film) you're left wondering if you actually understood the message the film was trying to convey.

Overall, *The Place Beyond the Pines* does what it sets out to do: it creates conversation and it allows time for the audience to become self-reflective, wondering how the choices they make will affect others, whether they know it themselves or not. Despite its flaws, *The Pines* is a beautiful cinematic creation and should be appreciated for the clear amount of effort that was put into making it. If anything, it upholds Cianfrance's passion for the human spirit, no matter how impossibly ambitious it can be to capture.



COURTESY OF THE PLACE BEYOND THE PINES VIA FACEBOOK

Ryan Gosling and Eva Mendes in Derek Cianfrance's emotionally turbulent "The Place Beyond the Pines."

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

A love letter to the creators of BuzzFeed

Dear BuzzFeed, I just want you to know that I consider you to be my spirit animal. As a lifelong fan of fuzzy animals and lists, you just understand my needs. I dedicate this list of my favorite moments on BuzzFeed to you:

1. Grilled Cheese

There's not a grilled cheese that I've met and haven't loved. It seems like half the articles I post on my friends' Facebook walls involve some version of grilled cheese, courtesy of BuzzFeed. Naturally. They have shared the wonder of the spinach pesto grilled cheese sandwich, the jam grilled cheese, the inside out grilled cheese and of course the nutella and marscapone grilled cheese. Cue the drool. P.S. Thank you, BuzzFeed, for celebrating National Grilled Cheese Day with me and believing in its existence.

2. Life Advice

BuzzFeed is a great phone-a-friend in times of crisis. Whether its handing me my life mottos or finding the perfect "Single Ladies" post to send to a friend in time of need, BuzzFeed pulls through. My latest favorite is "30 Things Michelle Tanner Can Teach You About Dating Like A Grown-Up." It's fantastic. But Speaking of Nineties television ... moving on to the next category.

3. Coverage of Girl Meets World

While we work on the feasibility of time machines (let's do this Hopkins!), BuzzFeed let's us rewind to

the year 1998 and re-live our childhood's greatest hit. It keeps me informed about the latest Ben Savage, Topanga-what's-her-face reunions and it's wonderful. And there are pictures. With their children. I can't handle the feels.

4. Cute babies

Speaking of children. The amount of puffy cheeks, the wide-eyed grins and tiny humans is sometimes overwhelming.

Also, can we talk about this article, "20 Reasons

Kids Are Pretty Much Just Tiny Drunk Adults?" It just makes so much sense.

5. Cute babies in hats

It's just 1,000,000 times better when these tiny humans are in hats.

6. Cute babies in pug hats. Casual.

7. Pugs and Puppies in general

Pugs. Pugs. Pugs. My love knows no bounds.

8. Miscellaneous Fuzzy Animals

Enough said.

9. The Existence of this article: "11 Incredibly Important Photos Of A Baby Covered In French Bulldog Puppies."

If you're not melting by the end, you have a cold, cold heart.

10. Wait, you mean there's actual news on BuzzFeed?

My love of BuzzFeed goes deeper than that. Believe it or not, BuzzFeed is where I turn in actual times of crisis. Yeah, maybe they're not always completely accurate, but they present it to me in a form I understand, up to the minute.

So that's about it. Thank you for always brightening my day.

Love,

A Humble Admirer

Katie Quinn

Guest Columnist

Watson reflects on the evolution of hip hop

Even though I'm now a DJ for WJHU, I sheltered myself musically for most of my life. Somehow, I had convinced myself that music had regressed since the 1980s. I mainly listened to my dad's old record collection, which exposed me to little beyond the Ramones, Rolling Stones and Dead Kennedys. In the car, I did listen to music, but the two classic rock stations in the Baltimore area kept me effectively sheltered from the world of modern music around me.

However, every once in awhile, an outside song would sneak in. I don't know when I first heard it, but seemingly forever I could the crooning of "Everydaaay is Saturday night, but I can't wait for Sundaaay morniiiiiiiing." I had a vague idea of what hip hop was. I knew it was popular, and so I knew that "Sunday Morning" fit the mold. Throughout high school, every time someone mentioned Jay-Z, Kanye West or Kid Cudi, I would think "Oh yeah, just like 'Sunday Morning.'"

Before I moved to college last summer, I spent a few days going through my room to figure out what to bring to school, what to leave home and what to throw out. While going through all of the junk left in my room, I found things I hadn't seen in years: favorite childhood toys, old drawings and crumpled homework assignments. Among this trash and nostalgia, I found a blue



COURTESY OF WWW.CHARTATTACK.COM

Canadian hip-hop artist, k-os, brings both a new and refreshing sound to the usually repetitive genre.

CD titled *Atlantis: Hymns for Disco* by some artist I had never heard of named k-os. Because anything is more fun than cleaning, I threw it in my CD player to see how it was.

Track one and two were entirely new to me, but they were types of songs that I could get stuck in my mind for days, and I was hooked. When track three started, I had an epiphany. The intro, a zany advertisement for "new, supersonic flypaper!" brought me back to my childhood, playing on the swings in my backyard with my brother and friends. I started to think

that maybe I had heard these songs before.

Any doubt that I knew this CD long ago was erased when the fifth song came on. Even before it reached the chorus that I had sung randomly for years, I recognized it as "Sunday Morning."

The album was great, but many of the tracks weren't easily labeled as hip hop. As I delved deeper into the album, I found Elvis samples, electric guitars and pop song melodies that may have been more in the album common than rap. Come to think of it, "Sunday Morning," which was hip hop to me for years, bent the genre itself.

K-os, I found, is a Canadian rapper and producer who has staked his claim as hip hop against hip hop. His stage name is stylized in all lower case in response to the use of

capitals by artists such as KRS-One, and he had lashed out against the hip hop establishment's obsession with fame with ironically arrogant lyrics in his first two albums. Somehow, I had managed to base my idea of what hip hop was around an artist who prided himself on not following the crowd.

However, all wasn't lost from my false characterization of a genre. *Atlantis: Hymns for Disco's* genre-blending made it incredibly accessible to a formerly dedicated classic-rock fanatic. Its references to the past made me realize that the hip hop as a genre wasn't just something new and bad that had started, but instead a part of music's evolution through time. In a way, k-os not being standard hip hop opened the doors to the genre for me.

Stephen Watson
On Deck With

The "Free spirit" of art exhibition

EXHIBIT, FROM B3

"The Order of Release," (1746).

Ruskin's wife fell in love with Millais, and since Ruskin had failed to consummate their relationship after six years (citing disgust with the female body), Effie had their marriage annulled.

In 1955, she married Millais, and posed for many of his subsequent works, including "Peace Concluded" (1856).

In addition to the fascinating historical gossip, the Pre-Raphaelite exhibit has much more to offer. There are decorative arts by William Morris, tapestries and stained-glass windows.

In keeping with the Pre-Raphaelite theme, the National Gallery presents the Café Britannica, where visitors can enjoy an overpriced buffet of British foods.

Options include a horrifying bubble and squeak salad of beet and root vegetables, but there are also some tasty choices like the

Cornish pasties.

Above all, the most arresting aspect of the Pre-Raphaelite exhibit is Rossetti's work.

His paintings of sensual feminine beauty dominate the National Gallery.

There is one piece in particular whose rich colors and sumptuous details draw all attention to its canvas. The painting is "Lady Lilith" (1866-68), which depicts Adam's first wife before Eve.

Her story is told in Goethe's *Faust*, which describes her sumptuous hair and how it winds around unsuspecting men.

Rossetti's sonnet that accompanies his painting proclaims a similar notion.

Thus, it seems fitting that the focus of Lady Lilith is the woman's luxurious hair, which she combs while contemplating her reflection in a hand-held mirror.

The expression on her face is also interesting. She is captured in a vain, traditionally feminine pose, yet there is an unmistak-

able sense of power in her presence. She seems self-possessed and in control of her own physical beauty.

It is this combination of voluptuous womanliness and authority that makes Rossetti's work particularly appealing.

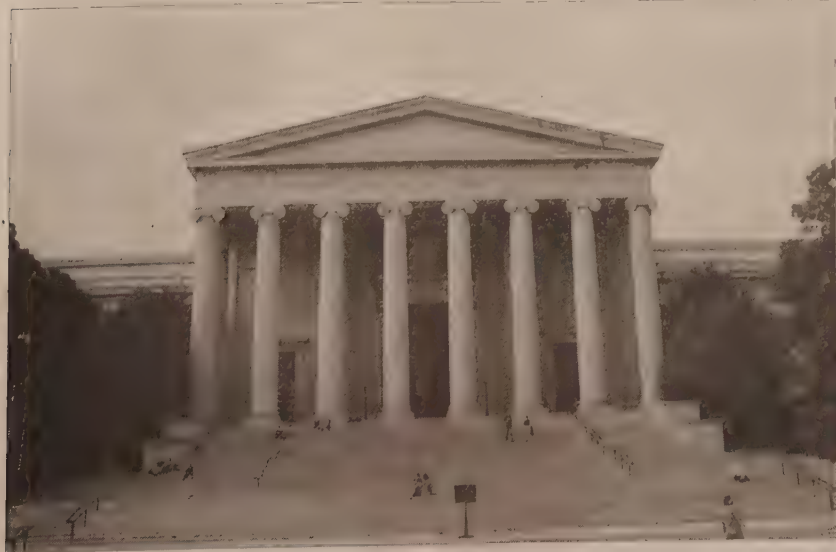
Pre-Raphaelite painting deals with beauty—as much of art does—but the Brotherhood's approach is unique, especially in the way defiance glares out of their pretty pictures.

This movement in the second half of the 19th century captures both the vibrancy and rebelliousness of youth and nature, all entangled in historical and literary references.

In many ways the Pre-Raphaelites' free spirited women speak of revolutions to come.

You can see echoes of their expressions decades later in photos of insolent hippies with flowers in their hair.

The Pre-Raphaelites exhibit runs through May 19 at the National Gallery of Art in D.C.



COURTESY OF WWW.NOWPUBLIC.COM

The National Gallery of Art in Washington D.C. is showing an exhibit of Pre-Raphaelites through May 19.

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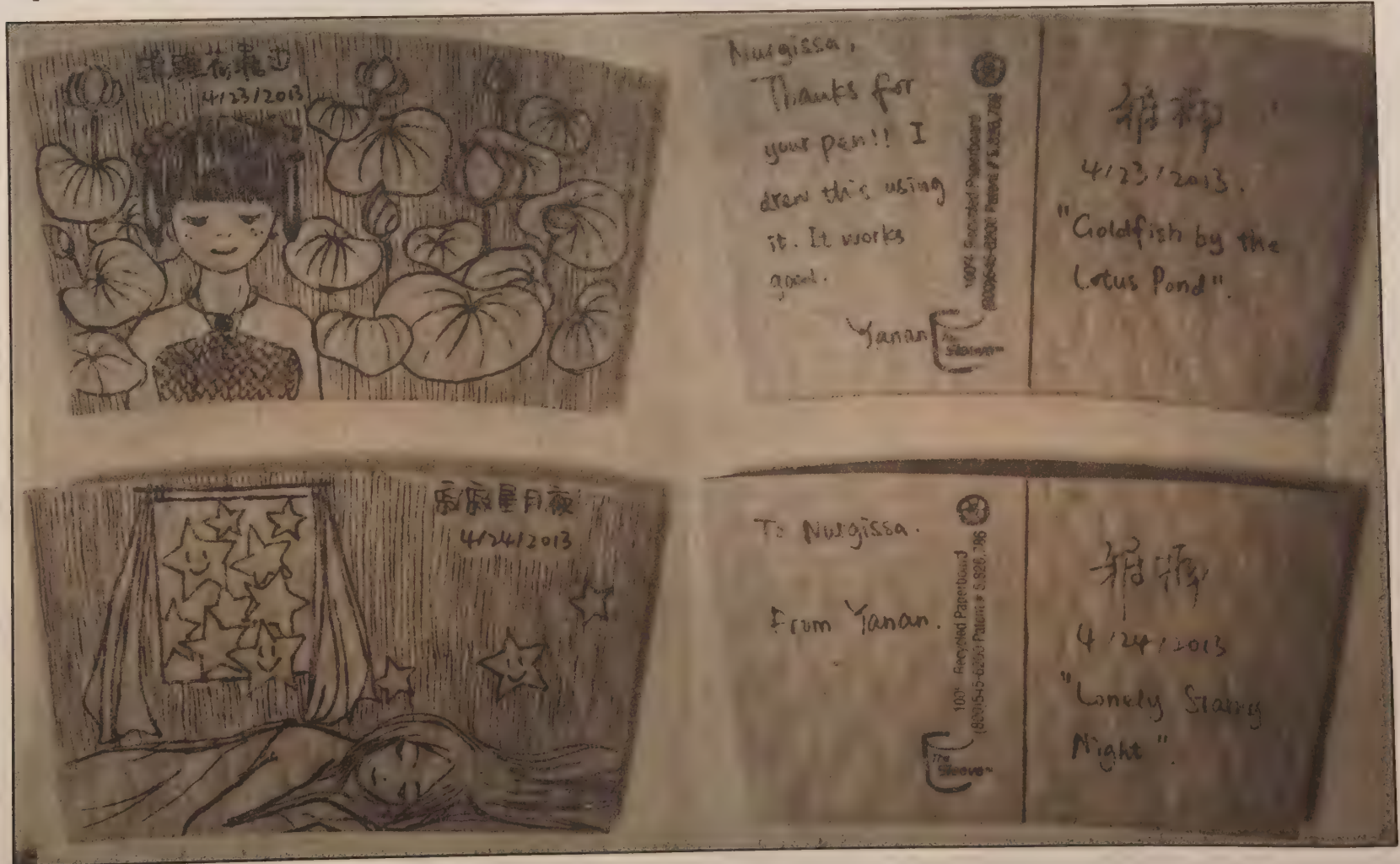
By Seola

Autumn Begins in Martins Ferry, Ohio



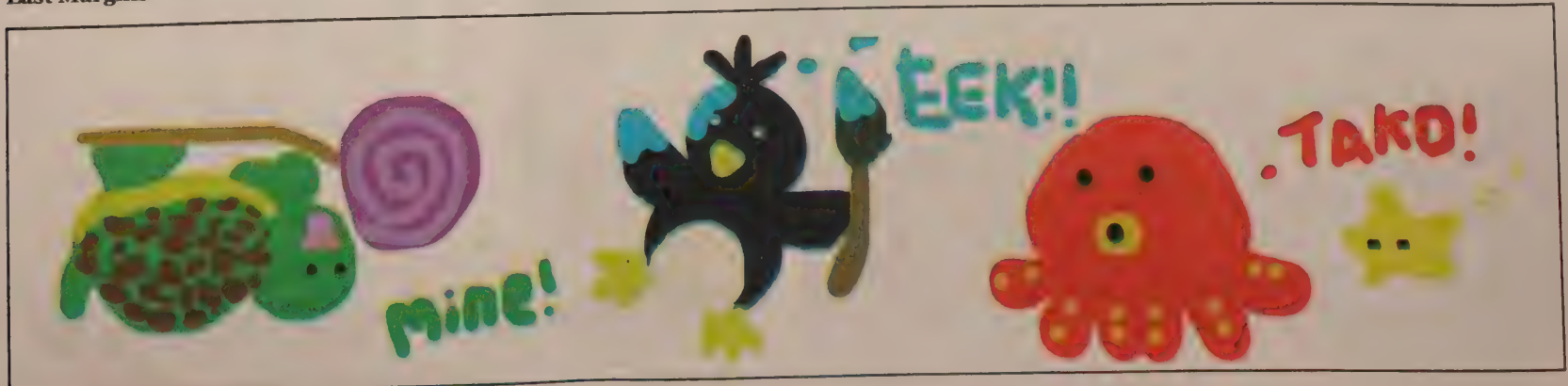
Cup Holder Fantasy

By Yanan Wang



Last Margins

By Takoyaki



SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

PHSF hosts student conference

By **KRISTY CARRANZA**
Staff Writer

Young adults often find themselves stuck in a “waiting room” — a place where everything comes at a standstill. We do not move because we are afraid to move; we do not know how to take the next step. So we remain frozen in that chair in the waiting room as we claw anxiously at the armrests. But why? We are at the brink of adulthood, yet we feel we are still not quite strong enough to make a difference in the world — to set a change for something so much bigger than ourselves. But there is a way out. Much to our surprise, we have had the key the entire time.

In fact, the causes of change are closer than we thought. At the Fourth Annual Undergraduate Conference in Public Health last Friday, students from Hopkins and the neighboring states presented their research in the field both abroad and within the nation. Here, even undergraduates were able to make their own findings in their respective projects, essentially using those results to progress in the science field or to improve social conditions. These students have already left that waiting room of doubt; they are providing an example for young people of their gen-

eration: changing the world can happen at any age.

STORYTELLER EXTRAORDINAIRE OPENS THE CONFERENCE

“Why do you create something? You put so much effort into it and it’s about going away,” Jody Olsen, former Chief of Staff of the Peace Corps, said.

With countless experiences from her world travels, Olsen led the conference with a voice that opened a window to the world. However, she begun with a more local story, one in which she witnessed an ice sculptor carving the word, “MELT”, in large ice blocks. It confused her that one would work so hard for something only temporary. But she was making her point. This is exactly how the field of public health works. “You have to have the intensity of that moment. You have to share that moment because that moment doesn’t come back. But I realized... that that moment has been captured in my head and thousands of other people’s heads and has influenced all of us for all these years.”

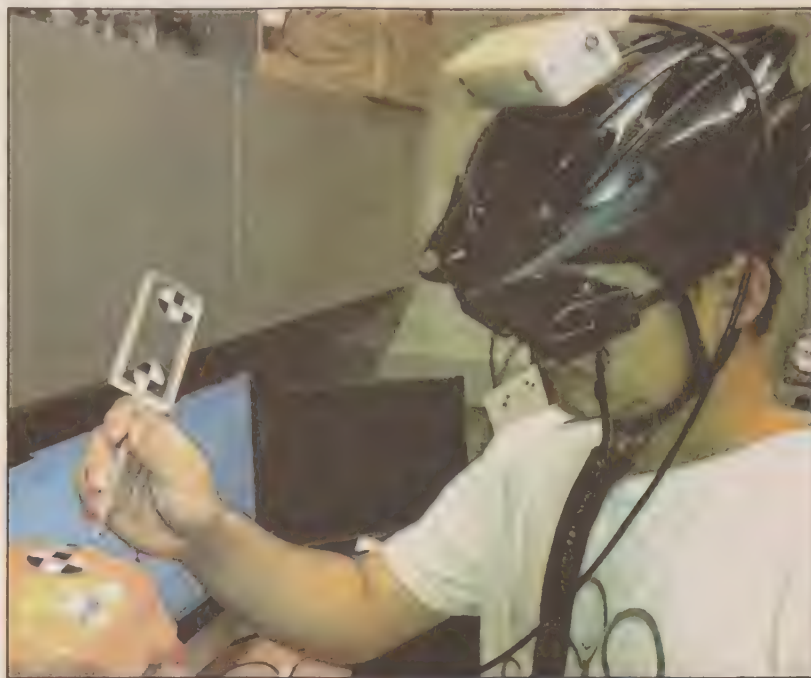
Like a spark, the job of a public health worker may be momentary, but their influence becomes widespread and long-lasting through the stories of the people that

have been affected. “We in public health are about that day, we are about that week, and we are about that moment. And it’s so important that our commitment in public health is about each day of the difference that we’re making because we’re influencing enormous populations,” Olsen said.

Olsen told a story of her time in Malawi, where giving birth comes at a great risk. In fact, it has the third highest maternal mortality rate in the world. Here, women are responsible for carrying the proper supplies on their person during pregnancy, so that in the time of labor, clinics will use those supplies and deliver the baby. However, even with improved services, Malawi women did not trust the foreign staff and continued their delivery methods in secret. Olsen reported that correcting this problem was more than simply implementing health care; it was about understanding the people in this other-worldly setting. Their interests, their beliefs, and their culture all affect the way that care reaches people. Public health is more than just statistics and economic intervention; there is a social element that involves both sides as well.

“Every one of us, no matter what we chose to do once we finish our degree here, we have made a commitment, we have a responsibility to health, well-being and to public health. Public health is all of us. We each have a place, and we each have a responsibility,” Olsen said. She sees public health as a field that anyone regardless of age or occupation can contribute to. On a national level, we can aid health issues by involving Congress or by promoting campaigns for anti-smoking. At a local level, we can do research and find the statistical evidence to fund a change. In terms of international health, Olsen eagerly promoted the World Health

SEE CONFERENCE, PAGE B8



COURTESY OF PRANEETH SADDA

Praneeth Sadda’s PURA award will fund his research on designing technology for navigation during surgery.

PURAs awarded for student research

By **KELLEN MCGEE**
Staff Writer

Hopkins has celebrated its status as the oldest research university in the U.S. for the 137 years since it was founded. The Provost’s Undergraduate Research Awards (PURA) seek to enhance the founding research principle. On April 22, these awards of up to \$2,500 were granted to over 20 undergraduates from across the University.

Founded in 1993 and funded by a gift from the Hodson Trust, the PURAs are given to undergraduate students to allow them to initiate their own research project in collaboration with a faculty sponsor.

“The undergraduate education has a strong focus on people learning how to discover,” Scott L. Zeger, Vice Provost of Research and chair of the 2013 PURA selection committee, said.

“And there are two aspects of discovery: one is discovery of how the natural world works, and the other is the discovery

of your own capacity and your own abilities to interact with people to be successful. I think the idea of the undergraduate education here is that by engaging in discovery of the first kind, the second kind tends to occur.”

The most intriguing aspect of this award stems from the general terms upon which it operates. Past project proposals represent the diversity of the Hopkins institution, offering selections from the pre-medical program to Peabody.

“A lot of it is lab-based research, but much of it is also in the social sciences, or the arts,” Zeger said. “We have people who have discovered instruments in South America and discovered composers and brought back music to per-

form for us.”

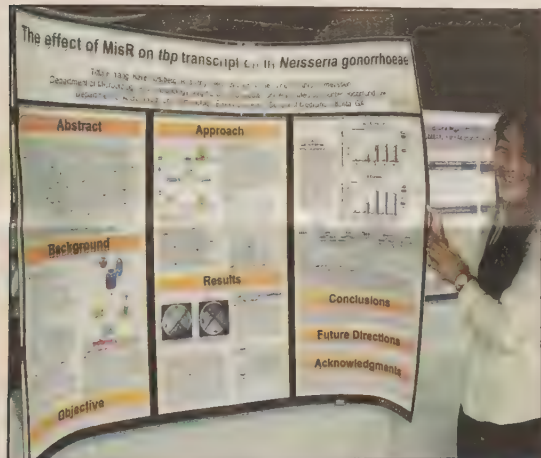
This year’s group of recipients show an equal variety of interests.

Junior Praneeth Sadda is working under the direction of Peter Kazanides on a new augmented-reality system (think nifty heads-up display). The system will allow surgeons to navigate inside their patients without having to turn away and look at the monitor displaying the CT scan.

Junior Alessendra Bauzate, a double major in Writing Seminars and Film and Media Studies, represents the humanities with her project — a proposal to film her short screenplay, *WHAT SOPHIE SAW*.

“My script takes on a large-scale issue — school gun violence — and

SEE PURA, PAGE B9



COURTESY OF MELYSSA HAUBENSTRICKER

Students presented their latest research at the PHSF conference.

EPAC2 may be the key to curing type II diabetes

By **TONY WU**
Staff Writer

The next time you contemplate the glazed munchy selection at the FFC, do your pancreas a favor and think of this article. Consistently combating fatigue with sugary pick-me-ups can seriously burn out your beta cells, which can only lead to one thing: diabetes.

Diabetes is a condition that affects millions of Americans each year. The disease contributes to cardiovascular problems and forces patients to adhere to a restricted lifestyle. Scientists estimate that approximately 26 million Americans are afflicted with diabetes, the majority of whom suffer from type II diabetes.

Type II and type I diabetes are commonly confused. Type I diabetes is the result of genetics and those who suffer from the condition cannot produce insulin. On the other hand, type II diabetics suffer from insulin resistance and are therefore unable to control blood sugar level. However, recently, researchers at Hopkins Children’s Center discovered an important protein that could alleviate the effects of type II diabetes, potentially treating millions of Americans.

A research team led by Mehboob Hussain, a pediatric endocrinologist at Hopkins Children’s Center, found that the protein

EPAC2 is more important than what previous studies had shown. The team determined that EPAC2 is a vital regulator in insulin production. The protein stimulates insulin-producing cells in the pancreas when more insulin is needed. The cells then respond by producing more sugar-regulating hormone.

In diabetics, this process is somewhat disrupted. Type II diabetics suffer from the dysfunction of certain cells known as beta cells. These beta cells are pancreatic cells responsible for secreting insulin, the hormone needed to maintain blood sugar level. When insulin is released, glucose in the blood stream is transported to tissues and organs as either energy sources or storage in the form of fat cells. The releasing process of insulin is called exocytosis. When people develop type II diabetes, the beta cells are too fatigued to produce the necessary amount of insulin. Type II diabetics develop this condition through chronic overeating. Every time the body ingests food, extra insulin is released. As people overeat over a long period of time, the beta cells have to work longer and harder to maintain the necessary blood sugar level. As a result of overworking, the beta cells will slowly lose their capability to produce insulin. With the cessation of insulin production, glucose builds up in the blood-

stream resulting in type II diabetes.

Researchers are curious about the signaling protein EPAC2 and its role in the regulation of insulin production. Hussein explains how past experiments on the role of EPAC2 had been done in cell cultures, however researchers were yet unaware on how EPAC2 would work on the entire organism. As a result, the research team at Hopkins sought to study the effect of EPAC2 in organisms. In experiments involving mice, the researchers first investigated the effects of EPAC2 in healthy mice. First, healthy and lean mice were given a regular diet. Researchers then measured their blood sugar levels and found that the mice, even without EPAC2 to signal insulin production, managed to regulate their blood sugar, maintaining it at a

safe level. However, when researchers gave the mice a high-fat, month-long diet, the mice without EPAC2 developed conditions similar to those of type II diabetics. These experiments suggest that EPAC2 plays an important role in regulating high sugar levels produced by overeating.

To further study the mechanism under which EPAC2 works, researchers put cells with and without EPAC2 under the microscope. Scientists discovered that cells with EPAC2 are able to regulate the amount of calcium inside the cell while the cells without EPAC2 cannot perform the same functions. The amount of calcium inside the cell is important since calcium is a catalyst that signals the cell to release insulin. Hussein describes how EPAC2 seems to be

SEE DIABETES, PAGE B9



COURTESY OF WWW.UCSF.EDU

Type II diabetes, caused by insulin resistance, affects hundreds of millions.



COURTESY OF WWW.BUZZLE.COM

Pneumonia is one of the top causes of childhood mortality worldwide.

Eliminating the top two causes of death in children

By **SOPHIA GAUTHIER**
Hip Hop Editor

You have probably suffered from one or maybe two of the leading causes of death in children around the world. Thankfully, you are still alive. This means that the two illnesses, which together claim the lives of over a quarter of all children across the globe, are preventable. The deadly culprits? Pneumonia and diarrhea.

Researchers from the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health propose that these two causes could be eliminated by 2025, just over a decade from now. The report from *The Lancet* is a culmination of four papers compiling years of data on the topic.

The first paper com-

pares the two illnesses and the burden they impart on global well being. It is a comprehensive examination of past global mortality statistics and projections for the future.

The second paper presents a variety of cost-efficient methods for reducing the number of deaths caused by diarrhea and pneumonia that could be implemented on a massive scale. These fifteen interventions, such as the promotion of zinc supplements, and an increase in vaccination, would move current statistics on child mortality into a downward trend.

The third paper compiles discussions with thousands of front-line workers in underdeveloped countries,

SEE MORTALITY, PAGE B8

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Students presented recent public health research at conference

CONFERENCE, FROM B7

Organization and mentioned their Safe Motherhood Program in the hopes of reducing maternal mortality rates in places such as Malawi.

The field of public health extends like a roof over the world; it can provide shelter, but it needs the support from more than just one organization in more than just one place.

"We have a responsibility to promoting health regardless of specialty, regardless of talent, and regardless of our interests. It's in every one of us," Olsen said.

WORLDWIDE DISCOVERIES UNDER ONE ROOF

A noisy crowd gathered around rows of poster boards as each student author eloquently spoke of their own research. Professors and fellow students alike took part in this event, recognizing faces from classes together. Amidst this crowd was Conference Chair and undergraduate, Claire Rosen, who remarked on the campus' "biggest and culminating event" in public health.

"[The Public Health Student Forum] works as a group, a conference committee, and a club to put the event together," Rosen said.

The process for preparing the Undergraduate Conference in Public Health is year-long, and the forum must come to a consensus on the theme and the guest speakers.

"The most interesting part is always deciding which speakers we're going to have and what they're going to influence in the conference. It's always nerve-wracking to think 'Will people come?', 'Are we going to have presenters?', but it's really helpful to work with the health studies office and get their support," Rosen said.

One poster author, Christina Li, presented on her summer abroad in South Africa at St. Joseph's Home, a place for economically-disadvantaged children in need of health care.

"When I was coming to Hopkins I never imagined I would be able to have the opportunity like this and affect the way a non-profit works. My experience was truly a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity that I will treasure forever," Li said.

Li surveyed the nurses at the home and calculated the number of hours nurses spent on certain tasks each day. The problem here was that some of that time was used on medically irrelevant tasks that other servicemen could do. With her data, Li proposed that more servicemen and less nurses would still be more efficient while saving money for the home.

As a senior and a part of the executive board of the Public Health Student Forum, Li has watched the conference grow throughout her undergraduate career and found it as a rewarding experience.

"This conference is really great because it showcases what students are doing. They're being proactive and they really want to enact change in their local communities both here and abroad..." Li said.

And seeing their peers demonstrate this ability will no doubt act as a motivator for students.

"I think it's important for students to realize that they can enact change here while they're at Hopkins..." Li said.

In fact, that very day, Li found out the St. Joseph's Home implemented her

suggestions and are now saving money by recruiting more servicemen.

Of different places and of different interests describe both the students and the people that they seek to help. Whether it is in Africa or Baltimore, students are working toward improving the many aspects of health. Diversity is everywhere, and it highlights the essence of the public health field, itself.

THE LEADERS OF THE FIELD

Toward the end of the conference, students had the opportunity to sit and have lunch with public health professionals from specialties ranging from infectious diseases to Health Care for the Homeless. One such specialist, Clifford Mitchell, is the acting assistant director for environmental health and food protection in the Department of Health

and Mental Hygiene Infectious Disease and Health Administration. He began his introduction with a question to the audience, one in which he asked them to close their eyes and

It's important for students to realize that they can enact change here while they're at Hopkins...

— CHRISTINA LI, SENIOR

picture what the word "environment" means. Afterwards, he asked if anyone saw people included in that image. Much to everyone's surprise only ten percent of the audience raised their hand. Mitchell pointed out that, aside from nature, the environment includes how people interact with their environment.

During the lunch, we sat down with Mitchell and he was very eager to know about the students as much as we wanted to know about him. One student asked what Mitchell's job entailed, and he explained that public health is structured and has many different aspects. In his



COURTESY OF MELISSA HAUBENSTRICKER

Students from a range of public health disciplines share research findings from all around the globe.

department, there are epidemiologists that handle food management, disease outbreaks and education of health and disease programs. In addition, there is a public health laboratory in Maryland with experts in environmental chemistry and microbiology. They even investigated whether pet food contained melamine, a chemical found in plastic, which ordered a recall in 2007.

There is also a clinical aspect to environmental health, and Mitchell noted that because of the relatively small amount of physicians in the field, they align themselves with many programs. Mitchell, himself, covers conditions associated with environmental exposure, radioactive releases, chemicals in the environment, climate change, hydrolytic fracturing, health impact assessment, and food protection.

"On any given day it's very hard to describe my job in some ways, but it's actually more fun than you're allowed to have legally until they catch you," Mitchell said humorously.

Mitchell became interested in environmental science and policy as an undergraduate and then went to MIT for their environmental health graduate

program. After a few years as a consultant, he went to medical school with an eye for occupational and environmental medicine.

"That's not the typical written career path for most people... but at some point along the way, many people discover that the patients that they're talking to keep talking about their workplace," Mitchell said.

He found that behind the science and behind the diagnoses, there is a larger root cause for a person's health: the workplace. After all, humans spend a third of their lives in such a potentially hazardous environment.

Quoting from 18th century Italian physician, Bernardino Ramazzini, Mitchell said, "If you really want to understand what causes health problems for people, you should first take a three-legged stool, sit down where they work, and watch them work."

So that's just what he did. During his time as a professor at the Bloomberg School of Public Health, Mitchell took his students to various workplaces in Maryland such as Bethlehem Steel and the Perdue processing plant. His students walked through the workplaces and saw what the people

were doing in order to gain an understanding of health outside of the hospital.

"As clinicians, most people's backgrounds are undergraduate, graduate school, medical school, and then they become doctors. Very few of them get into the real world... They don't see where most people work," Mitchell said.

Mitchell got the point across that public health and becoming a physician entails more than just the science and how that idea guided him through his career. "I was always interested in understanding where people lived, where people worked and how that affected their health which is really what preventative health — public health — is all about."

And so, even after conference, the insights and discoveries of professors and students in the field remained. This conference brought more than just the many aspects of public health together; it showed that regardless of age, occupation, and interest, we all have the ability to make a difference.

So, with the key in your hand, you know that waiting room is no longer suited to you. The world is out there, and it's just behind the door.

Child pneumonia and diarrhea addressed

MORTALITY, FROM B7

who deal with the battles of resource availability everyday.

And finally, the fourth paper wraps up and consolidates the arguments presented in the first three to direct current efforts towards a more cohesive and comprehensive action plan in the fight against child mortality.

Robert Black, an Edgar Berman Professor in International Health at the Johns Hopkins School of Public Health and the author several of the papers important in the study, describes his contribution to the research.

"I am broadly involved in quantifying the disease burden and getting the best estimates we can on cause of death and illness of children in the world, evaluating interventions and looking at controls."

He continues by explaining the goals and feasibility of the proposed program.

"It's about controlling the conditions. The global action plan from WHO (The World Health Organization) and UNICEF (The United Nations Children's Fund) that was launched at the same time as the paper has a similar plan for treating these diseases. Some of the treatments for pneumonia and diarrhea are the same, such as promoting healthy breastfeeding and fighting malnutrition. Others differ, such as vaccinations needed, antibiotics, etc.," he said.

He also delved into the economic feasibility of these efforts. "These interventions are largely not very costly, aside from vaccines and water sanitation. Other implementations are not very costly, and are actually already being funded right now by current initiatives, so the most expensive parts are already being covered cost-wise," he said.

The proposal, while rather ambitious, will inspire a reinvigoration in the work of current public health employees. The data supports simple and cost-effective interventions while resources are already in the process of being mobilized. The localization of the data into *The Lancet* series is a clearly articulated goal that will hopefully serve as a task-oriented guide for workers in the field and many of the non-profits that employ them.

As of now, Sub-Saharan Africa and Southeast Asia suffer the greatest casualties from such preventable conditions. The impact of these illnesses are generally overlooked because they are so easily treated in well-developed countries where malnutrition and unsanitary water are problems that have been largely eradicated for the general public. However, such solutions so easily taken for granted here in the US are not as readily attainable in other parts of the world. This new study hopes to change that reality.

By CATIE PAUL
Staff Writer

We are surrounded by a limitlessly complex world. Plants, although simple and green on the surface, contain intricate machineries that allow it to wield its photosynthetic powers. Humans, too, have developed extremely complicated functions over a tortuous and long path known as evolution.

Evolution is commonly thought to be moving in a certain direction: from simple to complex. For example, we know that creatures like the spider are much more complex than its bacterial ancestors from billions of years ago. However, some scientists have argued that this directional aspect of the theory of evolution does not explain how natural complexities came about and have proposed an alternative explanation.

Dan McShea and Wim Hordijk, the lead researchers of a study published in *Evolutionary Biology*, proposed that evolution progressed the other way — from complex to simple. They argued that functions like our visual or nervous system could not have possibly developed incrementally over time. They referred to these functions as "irreducibly complex," suggesting that an organism would never have had an eye or a brain that was half functional. An idea that could reconcile the existence of "irreducibly

complex" structures and natural selection has been included in their study.

Through extensive computational works, McShea and Hordijk have proposed the idea of complexity by subtraction, an idea that originally, body structures may have started out more complex and were selected to become simpler over time.

McShea and Hordijk used computer simulations to study the likelihood of their theory. The two scientists also looked at a biological example: the skull. There is an acknowledged trend towards fewer components as the skull developed from fish to amphibians to reptiles to mammals. This reduction in skull bones occurs as bones are lost or fused together, and demonstrates an overall reduction in the complexity of the skull.

Right now, complexity by subtraction is just being proposed as an alternative theory to how some structures in living organisms could develop. "There's enough here to be intrigued by this mechanism (and yes, I am intrigued!), but not enough to judge its importance, at this point," McShea wrote in an email to *The News-Letter*.

He also addressed some arguments that his research may contradict the Darwinian theory of evolution that has been accepted for so long.

"Interestingly, there is some lively web chat-



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Complexities in nature may have evolved towards simpler structures.

ter at the moment coming from creationists and intelligent-design folks who believe that our argument undermines Darwinism. It looks like they've latched onto the idea that we're offering a non-standard view of how complex structure arises. (We are, but it's perfectly consistent with Darwinism, and indeed invokes natural selection to explain the subtraction.) Anyway, just for clarity, let me say that our story for how complexity originates is non-Darwinian. It's based on the principle that any parts in an system will tend spontaneously to become more different from each other, simply by the accumulation of accidents. That is truly non-Darwinian, although not anti-Darwinian. It doesn't contradict natural selection. It just doesn't need

it. The second part of our story is very Darwinian. Once you have a complex system, with many different part types, natural selection starts removing the unnecessary ones and sculpting the remaining ones to function more efficiently."

McShea also plans to study the idea further and see if he can find more evidence of the occurrence of complexity by subtraction in nature. "As for future research, what I'll be doing is looking for possible cases of complexity by subtraction that might be worth looking into more deeply. The vertebrate skull that we looked at in this paper was one of those opportunistic cases that on close examination actually supported the complexity by subtraction idea. I'll be looking for others."



Despite having different tastes in music, like rap or classical music, the same region in everyone's brain is activated by listening to music.

The pleasures of musical experience studied

By EVA PEKLE
Staff Writer

Have you ever wondered if that amazing feeling you get while listening to your favorite song is anything like what others experience when they listen to their favorite music? There is a pleasure associated with those songs that we do not get by listening to random sounds put together. Researchers found that when we are indulging ourselves with some sweet melody, the auditory cortex is not the only part of the brain activated: emotion-associated regions and reward circuits are also stimulated.

The study took place at the Montreal Neurological Institute and Hospital and the results were published last week in *Science*. The study unravels the mechanisms that are activated when listening to music using functional resonance imaging (fMRI).

The fMRI is used to measure brain activity by

detecting change in blood flow. The participants of the study had to listen to music while scientists recorded the active areas of the brain.

The music for the study was specifically chosen: 60 previously unheard music excerpts. They were selected using a music recommendation software, similar to Pandora, to pick songs that would appeal to the listener. The participants were then given the option to purchase music with their own money: this was done so that the researchers were able to assess the reward value objectively. The prices of the songs were similar to those on iTunes.

While listening to the samples, the participants also provided a bid of how much they would be willing to spend for each item: \$0, \$0.99, \$1.29, or \$2. When recording the brain activity, many regions were active. To determine which was associated with the reward aspect, researchers focused on people who

bid \$2 multiple times, and were able to find that the nucleus accumbens was a key region for the rewarding aspect.

More precisely, the nucleus accumbens is associated with an expectation for how rewarding a certain activity is going to be. We anticipate the every next sound, whether the music will continue to swell, accelerate, slow down, or even drop the bass.

If activity is present in the nucleus accumbens, expectations have at least been met, and even surpassed. This was pictured in the study by the correlation between activity in the nucleus accumbens and the willingness to purchase the song.

The nucleus accumbens interacts a lot with the auditory cortex, which is responsible for processing and storing the music and sounds we have heard before. As the reward of the stimulus increased, the cross talk between those

two regions increased as well. The information stored in the auditory cortex throughout our life is what will determine the expectations we have.

The nucleus accumbens also interacts with other parts of the brain that are involved in the emotional aspects of processing, decision making and reward circuitry.

Reward circuitry, using the neurotransmitter dopamine, is what makes pleasurable activities such as eating and sex desirable: behaviors that are essential for the survival of species. For music, this reward pathway uses some of the most evolved brain areas including the prefrontal cortex, that carries advanced cognitive processes and is associated with personality.

Regardless of the type of music we enjoy, from rap to classical, the same areas of the brain are activated, allowing us to feel a wide range of emotions as a result of the dopamine release.

Innovative student research awarded

PURA, FROM B7 explores it through the lens of one family, on a micro, emotional level through the eyes of a 13-year old girl, the would-be shooter's sister," Alesandra wrote in an email to *The News-Letter*.

"We are going to put the funds towards production costs. Joshua Land '15 and Victor Fink '14, both Film and Media Studies majors, will be helping with the directing and cinematography. So, many students will benefit academically from the grant."

Freshman Ahmed Elsayyad decided to take on the question of how the government allocates healthcare.

"I intend to evaluate how healthy individuals value supplementary insurance coverage of mental illness by quantifying their willingness to pay via a survey" Ahmed wrote in an email to *The News-Letter*.

"The results may be useful to determine whether the government ought to include mental health benefits under the umbrella of

a baseline of healthcare."

Julia Huerta, a student at the School of Nursing, brought her public health background into her proposal. She wants to better understand the relationship between trauma experienced by women and associated mental health problems like depression, PTSD and suicidal ideation.

"The experiences of victims of trauma cannot just be captured with prevalence and incidence data, but we need to consider the severity and length of violence experienced or witnessed," Huerta wrote in an email to *The News-Letter*. "I hope this project will lead to a great awareness of using both quantitative and qualitative methods to collect and analyze data."

These projects represent only a small slice of the range of issues tackled by the innovative undergraduates at Hopkins. The 2013 class of PURA awardees are well on their way along the path to discovery and will carry forward the university's commitment to research.



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Vice Provost of Research, Scott L. Zeger, chaired the selection committee.

This Week: Campus Science Events

-- Thursday, April 25:

7 p.m. "Green Research and Sustainability Symposium (GRaSS)" by Sustainable Hopkins Infrastructure Program. [Olin Hall 305]

-- Monday, April 29:

6 p.m. "Discussion on Innovation for Global Health" by The Triple Helix. [Charles Commons Ballroom]

-- Wednesday, May 1:

4 p.m. "Symposium: Global & U.S. Climate Policy Past and Future - An Energy Perspective" by JHU's E'SHI. [Mason Hall Auditorium]

Protein affects pancreas cells

DIABETES, FROM B7 involved in regulating the rise of calcium in the cell before exocytosis occurs.

Despite the clear role of EPAC2 demonstrated in insulin production and release, scientists still cannot tell whether diabetes results from a lack of EPAC2 or vice versa. Since type II diabetics were healthy at first, it demonstrates that the patients originally have adequate amounts of EPAC2.

However, scientists cannot determine whether overeating depletes the ability of EPAC2 to stimulate insulin-producing cells or if chronic high sugar levels from overeating damage the EPAC2 protein, compromising its ability to regulate insulin.

While the relationship remains unclear, researchers remain optimistic about diabetes treatment. They believe drugs that target the EPAC2 protein will still help stimulate the beta cells and maybe even cure diabetes.

Structure of telomerase can help advance cancer research

By MO-YU ZHOU
Staff Writer

Sometimes, the key to understanding is to take a good, hard look. Scientists have been doing just that, training their eyes on the telomerase enzyme which is known to play a significant role in aging, cancer and other diseases. For the first time, researchers have mapped out the structure of the entire enzyme complex. The researchers from UCLA and UC Berkeley say this breakthrough could lead to new ways of combatting disease, particularly cancer.

The study, published in the April 11 print edition of *Nature* and led by Jiansen Jiang and Edward Miracco, both of UCLA, managed to make a discovery that many in the field had been itching to achieve, namely, find out what the telomerase enzyme looks like. The findings reported not only the relative positions of the enzyme's components, but also the organization of the enzyme's active site. Furthermore, the researchers were able to point out what each component contributed to the enzyme's biochemical function.

The researchers acknowledge that five years ago, these results would not have been possible. In order to put the puzzle of telomerase's three-dimen-

sional structure together, Jiang, Miracco, and their co-authors needed to take advantage of cutting-edge technology and a range of different methods. Fortunately, UCLA is home to a highly advanced electron microscopy facility that aided their research.

Telomerase was first identified in *Tetrahymena thermophila*, a single-celled eukaryotic organism that the researchers of the current study also used to solve the structure of telomerase. This discovery led to the 2009 Nobel Prize in medicine. In particular, research done in the lab of co-senior author Kathleen

Collins of UC Berkeley laid the groundwork for this endeavor.

Inside our cells, the protective ends of our chromosomes are known as telomeres. The telomerase enzyme helps maintain these telomeres. Like aglets, the plastic tips at the ends of shoelaces, telomeres protect important genetic information. However, every time a cell divides, these protective telomeres get shorter. At a certain point, the telomeres wear away until they are too short to protect the chromosomes. Just as the shoelaces would start to fray, the erosion of the telo-

meres causes cell death as part of the normal aging process.

In 80 to 90 percent of cancer cells, telomerase activity is quite high. As a result, telomeres do not shorten as they would with normal cells, extending the life of the cancer cells. This is a significant contributing factor to the progression of cancer.

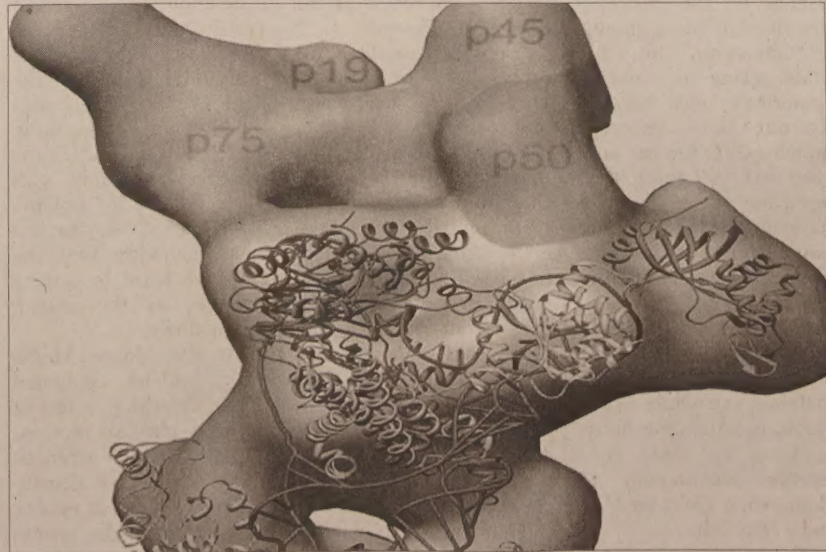
Most cells, unlike cancer cells, actually have low levels of telomerase. Thus, inhibiting telomerase might slow down the progression of various cancers while not negatively affecting most healthy cells.

Until recently, the development of cancer-fighting

drugs that targeted telomerase was hampered by the fact that the structure of telomerase was largely unknown. Now, however, the development of telomerase-targeting pharmaceuticals can finally take into account how the drug might interact with telomerase given the complete visual map provided by the researchers. The model can also be used to screen candidates for cancer therapy drugs.

The research also exposed previously unknown challenges. One surprise was the role of p50, a protein that acts as a sort of hinge in *Tetrahymena* telomerase. The protein was found to allow for dynamic movement within the enzyme complex, playing a crucial role not only in the activity within the enzyme, but also in recruiting other proteins to join the enzyme complex.

Most importantly, the development of a visual three-dimensional map of the telomerase enzyme seems to have significant implications for the development of drugs to combat a variety of diseases. In particular, the results of this study may provide scientists with a tool to better develop and test drugs that might slow down the progression of cancer cells.



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The telomerase, responsible for maintaining the telomeres of our chromosomes, was finally characterized.

SPORTS

M. Tennis remains undefeated in Conference

By MEGAN DiTROLIO
Staff Writer

The Hopkins men's tennis team earned the top seed in the Centennial Conference this past weekend, as the men notched victories against both Muhlenberg (9-0) and Mary Washington (9-0). The men subsequently improved their overall 15-2 record and their Centennial Conference undefeated record to 8-0. With only one regular season match remaining, the men hope to maintain their top seed.

Play began on Saturday morning when the men took on Muhlenberg. The points began racking up when sophomore David Greenbaum paired with freshman Nathan Law. The duo won third doubles over Mules Dylan Ander and Keith Beizer with a score of 8-4 to show for their efforts.

This victory was followed by another, as senior Jeff Kamei and sophomore Sam Weissler beat out Derrick Eng and Daniel Lakhman at first, a final score of 8-4.

The wins poured in quickly after that, as sophomore Edward Corty with the helps of junior Jeremy Schwartz closed doubled competition with a victory over Eric Chavis and Jason Teitelbaum at second, 8-4.

The men didn't let up in singles play, and continued to demonstrate skill throughout their play. At first, senior Andy Hersh set the tone early during his 106th career singles match, breaking the school record for matches played. Hersh was victorious over Lakhman, 6-1, 6-3.

Weissler also helped start singles play off right, as he took a victory over Teitelbaum (6-1, 6-0) at second. This win was closely followed by yet another Hopkins conquest, as Schwartz beat out Chavis 6-1, 6-0 at third.

Corty also had a strong showing, as he recorded a perfect 6-0, 6-0 win over Ander at fourth. Law beat

Beizer at fifth with a final score of 6-4, 6-0, and closing the match was Junio Joonas Karjalainen, defeating Eng at sixth with a score of 6-0, 6-1.

Play continued in the afternoon as the team took on the Mary Washington Eagles in non-conference play. Hersh and Kamei beat Evan Charles and David Lunding-Johansson, 8-1, at third doubles, earning the first point of the match.

Following the victory, the sophomore duo of Tanner Brown and Erik Lim defeated Tuler Carey and Kaleb Nguyen 8-4 at first. Closing out doubles play were freshman Nicholas Garcia and sophomore Noah Joachim, who were victorious over Alex Blakhin and Sam Wichlin at second, 8-3.

The men continued to display strength in the final stretch of the day for singles play.

Singles competition began with Garcia, who beat out Will Apperson at

sixth, 6-2, 6-1. Soon after, sophomore Ben Hwang snagged a win over Charles at third, with a score of 6-1, 6-2.

At fourth, Lim was victorious with a 6-0, 6-3 win over Lunding-Johansson, and Brown continued raking up the points with his 6-0, 6-1 cincher.

Hersh succeeded in his 80th win of his career at first, defeating Blakhin 6-3, 6-3. Hersh now ties David Maldow (2010) for the record.

To close singles play was Weissler, who also won at fifth over Nguyen, 6-2, 7-6 (4).

The men continue their hard work and dedication while hoping for the best results in future matches.

"It was quite nice to shut out both teams this Saturday. It shows how deep our team is and how our hard work has been paying off," Lim said.

Lim continued to elaborate on the energy needed for the final leg of their season.

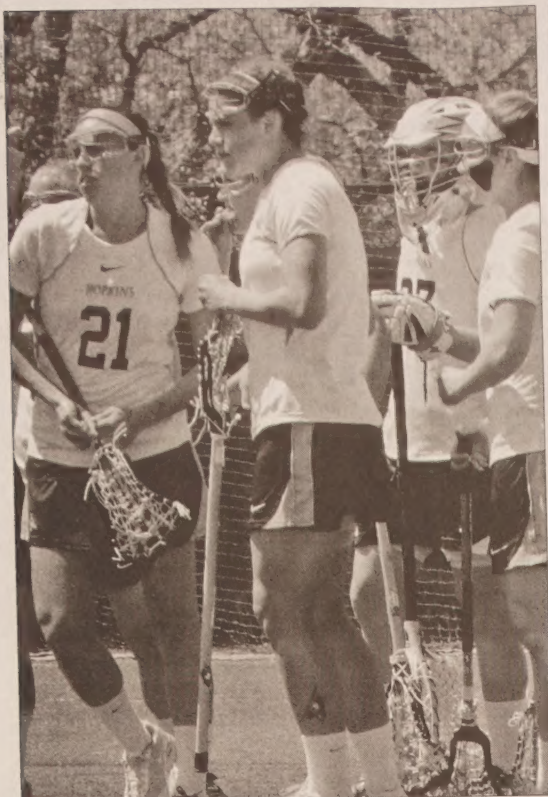
"Heading into the last couple of matches of the regular season, we feel confident. We still have to improve throughout the last stretch and push ourselves harder than before but it is what we have been waiting for all year. This year will be special—we all can feel it."

The team hopes to continue their winning streak next Saturday, April 27th, when they host Washington College and NC Wesleyan. Come watch the men face Washington at 11:00 am and Wesleyan later in the day at 2:00 pm.

Washington College is currently 6-9 in their season, suffering a losing record of 3-4 in conference. Saturday's match will be the first time the Jays and the Shoremen meet this season.

Wesleyan posts a similar record of 6-8 this season. The Cardinals are 4-3 in their conference, NESCAC.

Hopkins remains undefeated at home and in conference.



JENNY CHO/PHOTOGRAPHY STAFF

In an up-and-down season, the Lady Jays now find their record at 9-6.

Lady Jays edged out by #6 Penn, 15-14

By DAVID RAUBER
Staff Writer

Some late game heroics from Nittany Lion Mackenzie Cyr pushed sixth-ranked Penn State past the Blue Jays by a score of 15-14 on Sunday. In a back and forth nail-biter that kept the fans on the edge of their seats the whole way through, it was no surprise that the deciding goal came with just 31 seconds to go.

Penn State got the scoring going just 52 seconds into the game when Maggie McCormick connected on a high to low shot. The Lady Jays responded with a four-goal spree, led by junior Taylor D'Amore. D'Amore scored two goals just 67 seconds apart from each other to give the Jays an early lead.

Fourteen seconds after D'Amore's second goal, senior Katie Duffey increased the Blue Jay's lead to two, on a shot off of a feed from sophomore Jen Cook. Junior Sarah Taylor then gave Hopkins a 4-1 lead, scoring the first of her three goals on the day.

Despite the nice cushion provided by D'Amore and Taylor, the Nittany Lions erased the gap almost instantly. Three goals over a 98 second span allowed Penn State to tie the game at four.

With a little over 16 minutes remaining in the first half, Sarah Taylor was able to regain the lead for Hopkins, scoring off of a feed from D'Amore.

The assist gave D'Amore her 100th of her accomplished career. D'Amore became the fourth player in program history to reach this mark.

Penn State again answered with back-to-back goals from Kelly Lechner and Tatum Coffey to regain a 6-5 lead. Dene DiMartino was able to tie the game just before half-time off an assist from fellow freshman Caroline Turco.

Jen Cook kept the action going by scoring a go-ahead goal for the Lady Jays, just 21 seconds into the second half. As the scoring continued to go back and forth, D'Amore and Taylor were both able to notch goals, giving them each a hat trick on the day.

With the score eventually being tied at 11, freshman Jenna Reifler gave the Blue Jays another lead, off of an assist from D'Amore. A goal by junior Sammy Cermack, quickly followed by another goal from DiMartino, gave the Blue Jays a three-goal

cushion. However they were unable to hold on to the advantage.

After Penn State's Kelly Lechner tied the game up at 14, Taylor was called for an offensive foul, giving possession back to the Nittany Lions. On the following possession, Cyr scored what proved to be the game-winning goal, off of a pass from McCormick. Penn State was able to control the ensuing draw and run out the remaining time on the clock.

Despite the disappointing loss, D'Amore's five assists made her the first player in school history to record five assists in three straight games. When asked about the game, D'Amore had a positive outlook despite the outcome.

"I felt like our offense was clicking throughout the entire game," D'Amore said. "We were making a lot of good, quick passes, which resulted in some good chances on goal. This is something we have struggled with occasionally throughout the year."

D'Amore also pointed to some keys to success heading into the playoffs.

"We need to improve our consistency heading into the post-season," D'Amore said. "We have to continue to play our best game for a full 60 minutes, so we don't lose leads at the end of tough games."

On Sunday, the Lady Jays will face another important conference opponent, when they travel to Columbus, Ohio to take on the Ohio State Buckeyes.

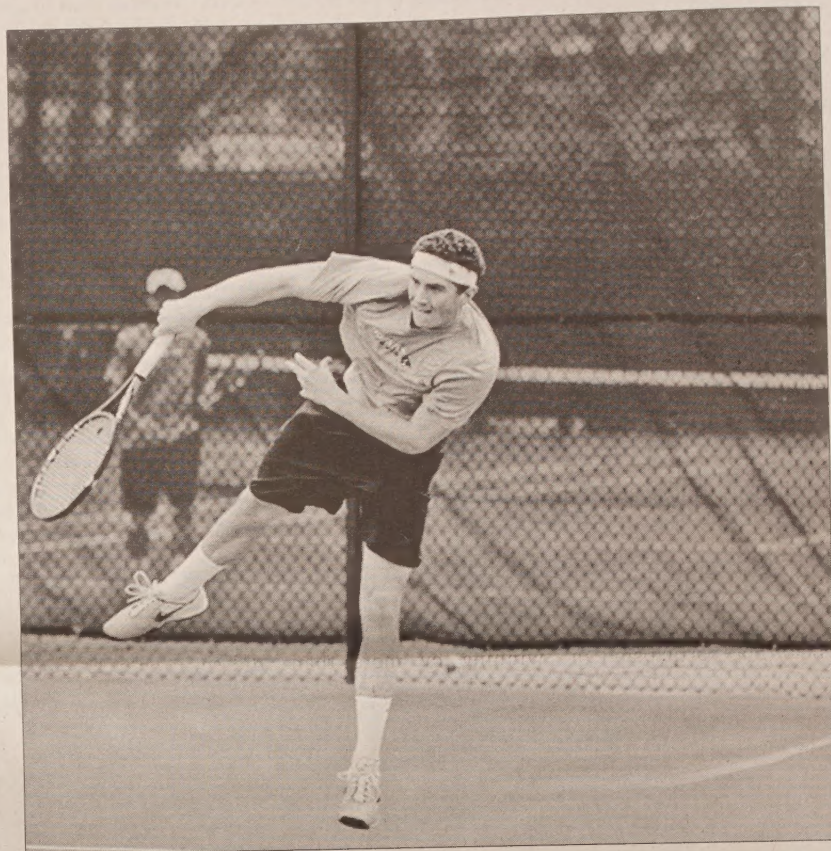
The Buckeyes are currently ranked 29th in the country, only three spots under Hopkins. Ohio is 8-7 this season, but boasts a 5-1 record at home.

The team plans on preparing for the Buckeyes just like any other game.

"Obviously, the Ohio State game is another important one, because it's our last conference matchup," D'Amore said. "But we aren't going to do anything out of the ordinary against them. We are going to stick to the game plan that has been working for us all year, and play hard for a full sixty minutes."

Following Sunday's matchup at Ohio State, Hopkins will come home to host the ALC conference tournament at Homewood Field on May 2nd - May 5th.

The Lady Jays are now 9-6 on the season.



FILE PHOTO

The squad possesses a 15-2 overall record and a perfect 8-0 conference record with two matches remaining.

New records put Jays on pace for Penn Relays

By COLE RIDER
Staff Writer

The men's track team most recently competed against talented schools in various meets including the two-day Widener Invitational, the Larry Ellis Invitational and the Mount Mullis Meet.

The Hopkins men ran competitively across the board to show well against the likes of Villanova, Temple, Haverford and others. Freshman Trevor Holmgren was one of many runners who placed well at the Widener Invitational. Holmgren set the Hopkins freshman record in the 800-meter race with a time of 1:55.62. Holmgren, along with most of the men on the Hopkins track team, steadily improved as the season progressed.

Holmgren credited his accomplishment to guidance from his teammates and coaches.

"I am very excited about my progress and that I am able to make a team contribution in the 800 meter run, which has always been my favorite event," the freshman from San Ramon, Calif. said. "My coaches and teammates all have helped me rebound from a rocky start by giving me additional training components and lots of encouragement."

Holmgren turns his focus to future events and bigger upcoming events at

the end of the season.

"Personal records are broken every weekend and we certainly hope to improve our overall team marks this season."

Holmgren concluded his commentary by mentioning the relentless drive of his squad.

"It is great to be a part of the Hopkins team because everyone is committed to continued step-by-step improvements even with the many obstacles to overcome along the way."

However, Holmgren was not the only Hopkins runner to fair well against the talented field. Andrew Carey also ran well in the 800m event placing 6th, just four spots behind the new Hopkins freshman record holder.

Sophomore Ryan Walsh and junior Brendan Evans each won their individual events in the field events. Walsh won the high jump by jumping 6'4.75" (1.95m) and Evans won the long jump with a leap of 21'2.75" (6.47m). Both marks were season bests, showing that the Hopkins team is getting stronger as the season winds down.

At the Mount Multis meet, athletes competed in the decathlon, a test of not only physical prowess but also mental strength and will power. A decathlon consists of ten events, ranging from the javelin throw and the shot put to a hurdles event and a dis-

tance run.

Hopkins decathlete Michael Spadaro had his best showing of the year and placed third in the process. Spadaro thinks it is important to maintain composure, stay grounded and treat every event with the exact same importance during the decathlon.

Besides knowing how to do all the events it is important to have a very level head when competing," the 5'11" sophomore from Holland, Pennsylvania said. "You go from event to event and if you do poorly in a single event, you cannot get down on yourself. When you have a bad event it can end up affecting your overall performance just because you get down on yourself."

Spadaro also spoke very highly of his teammates and fellow decathletes Devin Conley and Nick Tyson.

"Both Nick and Devin did great as well. Everyone who went set personal bests and I think part of the reason we did so well was because we were there for each other and helped one another with the events we were individually better at."

Conley, a freshman, competed in his first ever decathlon and placed sixth, while Tyson finished right behind him in seventh.

The Mount Multis meet

served as a warm-up for the conference championships and nationals. All three hope to learn from their performances and train harder for the big meets at the end of the year.

Spadaro commented on the benefits of having a practice run before Centennial Conference Championships.

"We will most likely all be competing in the decathlon again at conferences so it was good to have one beforehand," the veteran said. "I didn't have that luxury last year and I feel like it really hurt me. This year, I am very optimistic for all three of us and I think we will be good for a couple years to come."

Next up for the Hopkins boys is the Penn Relays at the University of Pennsylvania over the weekend of April 25-April 27.

The Penn Relays is a massive event, with hundreds of teams of all levels gathering to compete. Other Maryland teams competing include Towson, UMBC and Mount St. Mary's, to name a few. Additionally, conference competitor McDaniel will also make the trip.

The Jays are preparing for the Centennial Conference Championships in the first week of May and hope to qualify for events in the NCAA Championships in LaCrosse, Wisconsin from May 23 to May 25.

W. Track and Field readies for conference

Team competes in three separate meets

By ALEX PICANO
Staff Writer

The women's track team had an action-packed weekend, participating in three separate meets around the Northeast. These events included the Widener Invitational, the Mount Multis Meet and the Larry Ellis Invitational.

Hopkins excelled in the field events at the Widener Invitational, which took place in Chester, Pennsylvania.

Freshman Imoni McCorvey re-broke the Hopkins program outdoor record in the triple jump. She claimed first place overall by leaping 11.40 meters. Her exceptional bound ranks 18th nationally for Division III athletes this season.

"For this past meet, working on the technique was the most challenging," said McCorvey. "I have been working on my landings for a long time. I was lucky because I had my teammates and people from other schools to push me. This motivated me to jump my farthest this outdoor season."

Freshman Katherine Hamlet also performed well in the field. She participated in the high jump, tying her own program record for the second week in a row. She finished second overall in the competition, jumping a height of 1.60 meters (5 feet, 3 inches).

"At the Widener Invitational, there were some talented teams who brought good competition," said Hamlet. "Specifically, there were about two other girls in high jump who jumped around the same height as me. This provides good motivation to jump high. My event is very mental, so I work on staying calm and always focusing on my jump and seeing myself clearing the bar. The best part for me is having my family and my boyfriend there to watch and support me. Also, resting the day before the meet keeps my muscles fresh so they can perform at maximum potential on meet day. I look forward to jumping 5'5" within the next two weeks, and breaking my own personal record, as well as the school record again!"

In the throwing events, senior Alana Merkow and freshman Rae Conklin both finished strong. They were able to claim third place and fourth place in the shot put and discus, respectively. Both women broke their personal records in each category.

Hopkins also performed well on the track in the competition as the women set many personal records.

Sophomore Ingrid Johnson placed sixth in the 800 meter, setting a personal record time of 2:18.03. Junior Chloe Ryan also set a personal record, finishing 10th with a 26.55 in the 200 meter dash.

In the 1500 meter run, Hopkins had two runners finish in the top ten. Freshman Caroline Powers and sophomore Ashley Murphy both finished with times under 4:58.00 to help the team finish strong in the meet overall.

In the 100-meter dash, junior Chloe Ryan and sophomore Kelly Hussey finished 7th and 8th respectively. The Blue Jays also performed well in the relays, with both the A and B teams finishing second in both the 4x400 meter relay and the 4x100 meter relay, respectively.

When asked how to prepare for a meet with such strong competition, freshman runner Brynn Parsons said, "We had to train a lot and strengthen ourselves so we wouldn't get hurt. I hurt my hamstring a couple weeks ago, so I was trying to heal and make sure I could run a strong race without re-injuring it, and that's what I did on Saturday! We're looking forward to both men and women doing well at conferences in two weeks!"

At the Mount Multis Meet, senior Kristin Spera led Hopkins to the win in the Heptathlon. The event combines seven different events, including 100 meter hurdles, high jump, shot put, 200 meter dash, long jump, javelin and the 800 meter race.

I work on staying calm and always focusing on my jump and seeing myself clearing the bar.

— KATHERINE HAMLET, FRESHMAN

Spera finished first overall in the meet, winning by more than 400 points. She also set a school record with a cumulative score of 3838 points. Spera threw a personal record in the shot put with a distance of 10.29 meters. She also did well in the long jump and in the javelin, marking 5.14 meters and 24.40 meters, respectively.

"It was great competing with Paige and Kristin," said Spera. "We all made an effort to finish the series of events and do our best in every single one of them. Most importantly, we had a lot of fun doing it, that's what counts the most in the end. The guy's team did great as well, and it was definitely a fun experience with all of us together."

Freshman Paige Marsh also fought valiantly in the Heptathlon, coming in third with a total of 3314 points. Senior Tracey Vill came in fifth with a personal best of 2982 points.

At the Larry Ellis Invitational, freshman Courtney Kelly and junior Abby Flock were the focus of the meet. They each ran in the 5000 meter race and took 40 seconds off their personal best times. Going up against numerous Division I athletes, the women stood up well. Flock finished in 33rd place with a time of 17:31.90, and Kelly finished in 45th place with a time of 17:47.23.

When asked where the team is headed Kelly said, "We're really looking forward to claiming another conference title next week. We've all been training really hard since December and it all comes down to next weekend. We're definitely prepared to reclaim the conference title."

The women have a busy schedule ahead of them when they will travel to The Penn Relays this upcoming weekend, trailed by the Centennial Conference Championships the following weekend.

By KYLE METZGER
Staff Writer

Hopkins had many shining moments in the three meets they competed in this weekend. But the team particularly excelled in the Widener Invitational.

It was the field events for the Blue Jays that enabled the team to gain a substantial portion of its points at the Widener Invitational. The force was led by senior Kristin Spera. She broke her own program record in the Heptathlon, placing her first in the meet. Spera dominated her opponents, winning by more than 400 points.

Spera excelled in all seven of the events, but especially shined in the shot put and long jump. She threw a personal record of 10.29 m and long jumped 5.14m. By the end of the event, Spera accumulated 3838 points, surpassing her own program and personal record. *The News-Letter* had the opportunity to talk with Spera regarding her personal achievements and contribution to the team.

News-Letter (N-L): What does it mean to you that you hold the program record in the Heptathlon?

Kristin Spera (KS): It really means a lot to me to hold the record. So much work goes into practicing each event and it all depends on what you bring

that day. You just try to hit your potential in every event and shake off things that don't go so well. I'm happy with my performance this past weekend but I'm definitely shooting for even more for my last heptathlon which will be at conferences.

N-L: Which ingredient for success put you where you are now?

KS: In our sport, minuscule measurements of time and distance are critical and can drive you a little crazy. Sometimes you get so focused on the numbers you can forget that track is supposed to be fun. I think I've seen successful recently because I'm not thinking so much and genuinely having fun competing in my events.

N-L: What sacrifices have you made to get yourself to where you are now? Have they been worth it and why?

KS: I wouldn't say I've had to make many sacrifices. Being involved in sports

for so long, it's just part of your lifestyle to give up your weekends and get your work done ahead of time. If anything it makes you better at managing your time. It has all been worth it; I love this team and I wouldn't trade it for anything.

N-L: What have been the team's goals for this season? How has the team approached them?

KS: We want to continue our legacy and win the Centennial Conference Championship, and break

as many records as possible. Also, this season we have more girls than ever meeting national qualifying standards. To meet these goals we are training every day and pushing each other to get faster and stronger.

N-L: What kind of leadership role have you taken upon yourself in order to benefit the team?

KS: I pretty much go by the lead-by-example principal and just keep a posi-

tive attitude at practice and during meets. Being a heptathlete is great because you get to practice different events from all areas of track and field. You gain a lot of appreciation for what your teammates can do, which I feel brings the team closer.

N-L: As a senior, what has Hopkins track and field meant to you? What has been your best memory and greatest accomplishment throughout your career at Hopkins?

KS: It's hard to put into words how much I've loved my experience on the track team. I would say some of the best memories have been from winning Centennial Conferences for the first time; outdoor freshman year, indoor sophomore and this past winter for the men.

Those meets are the ones that have the whole team on their feet cheering for everyone because every point matters and when teammates rise to the occasion and pull out unexpected performances. I'd say that winning individual titles has been great, but being a part of that atmosphere and having my performances contribute to our team's victories has really been very rewarding.



COURTESY OF HOPKINSSPORTS.COM
Spera broke her own program record.

After back-to-back losses, baseball team record is 30-5

By JEFF SCHILL
Staff Writer

The Hopkins Baseball team reached the 30 win mark this weekend and did so in only 35 games. With an overall 30-5 record the Blue Jays are currently ranked third in the nation behind Linfield and Kean.

Hopkins has gotten to this point in the season with great hitting and stellar pitching performances from young talent. The deep roster for the Jays has enabled Head Coach Bob Babb to feel confident in any player that steps up to the plate.

The week's newest list of individual honors is a testament to the talented lineup. Senior captain Jeff Lynch, otherwise known within the clubhouse as Bad Cop, has been outstanding all season hitting over .400 and has been named to the D3baseball.com Team of the Week, as well as Centennial Conference Player of the Week.

He was the fourth Hopkins player to get the national team of the week nod, as the Blue Jay successes this year have truly been a team effort.

"Honors like these are

vey nice and I'm sure I'll look back on them some day, but they don't really mean anything right now. What matters is coming together as a team and working hard so that we are playing our best baseball come playoff time," added Lynch.

Despite the 30-5 record, the Blue Jays find themselves facing adversity for the first time all year. The Jays played four games this week and lost on back-to-back days, which is a first for the season.

The losses seem to stem from scheduling difficulties as the Blue Jays played a long stretch of games coming into the weekend. Despite losing two games this week, the Blue Jays swept Ursinus to remain at the top of the Centennial Conference.

After rain blanketed the region this past week, the Blue Jays needed to push back the game scheduled for Friday and move the double header to Saturday. In game one, the Jays had junior Tyler Goldstein on the mound and as per usual. He was dominant, allowing just one earned run in 7.2 innings. The offense got started early in the first when Lynch launched a double to score sophomore

Chris Casey. Junior Mike Denlinger followed with an RBI of his own and senior Ryan Zakszeski added an additional RBI single to give the Blue Jays the 3-0 lead.

This was all the run support Goldstein needed as he stifled the Bears for most of the afternoon. Junior Zach Augustine and sophomore Justin Dreschel came in relief to close the door on the Bears and end game one with a final score of 4-2.

The second game featured more pitching from the Blue Jay staff as freshman Carter Burns went the distance and struck out nine batters in the process. Although the Bears struck first in the top of the first frame, the Blue Jays tacked on eight runs and did not look back. In the bottom of the sixth inning, senior Kyle Neverman and Lynch both belted homeruns to put the game out of reach and secure the Jays' 30th win on the season by a score of 8-2.

The Blue Jays returned to the field the very next day and traveled to face Gettysburg. The Bullets already spoiled the Blue Jay winning streak last week in Baltimore and got

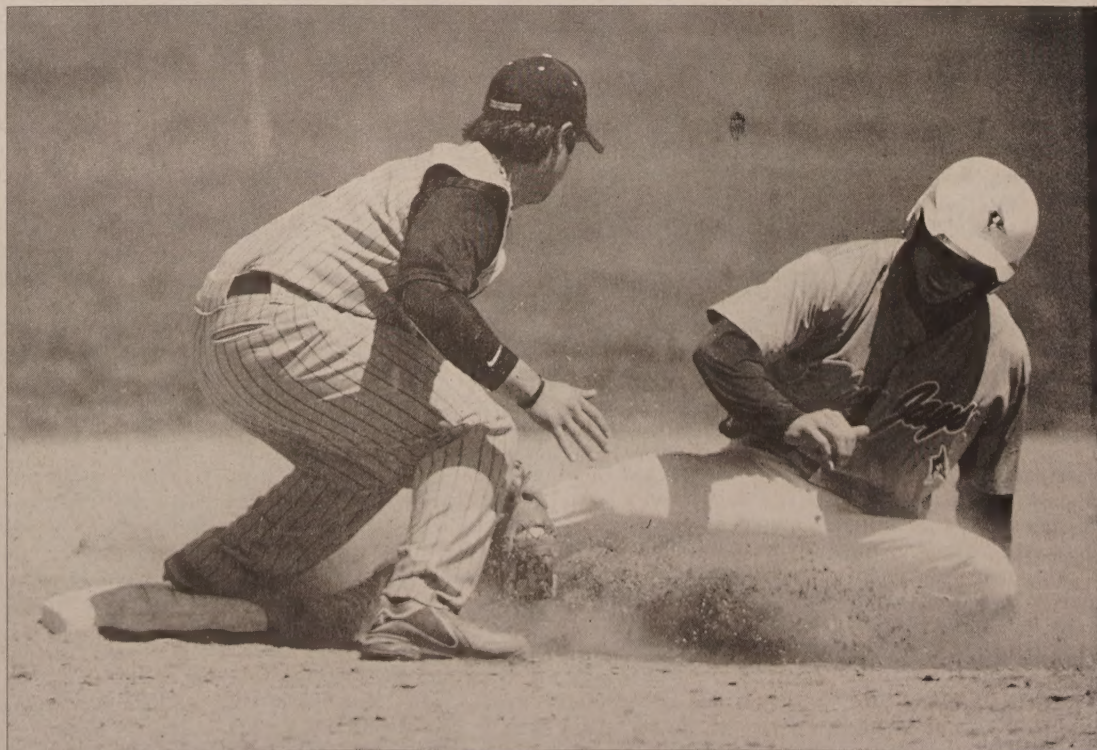
the best of the Jays in the second match up as well. The Bullets outplayed the Blue Jays broke open the game in the fifth inning by taking a 5-1 lead. The Blue Jays could not get the bats working as they only scored one run for the first time all season.

The Blue Jays stepped back onto the field the next afternoon to take on Washington College. Washington College got on the board first but Neverman launched a home-run on the bottom of the frame to tie up the game. Despite initial life from the Jays offense, hits could not turn into runs for the Blue Jays in the latter innings.

The six errors on the day did not help the cause as the Blue Jays fell 7-3 and notched just their fifth loss of the year.

The Blue Jays will return to action on Friday and will play with a chip on their shoulder while not losing sight of their end goal.

"Although we're in a little bit of a lull, we've worked way harder than any other team and expect to win our last game," noted senior captain and starting shortstop Kyle Neverman.



NATHAN MCDONALD/PHOTOGRAPHY STAFF

After a tough week that saw the baseball team suffer back-to-back losses for the first time this season, the squad's record now stands 30-5.

SPORTS

DID YOU KNOW?

Senior cleanup hitter Jeff Lynch was named Centennial Conference Player of the Week after a week which saw him hit four home runs for the Jays.

CALENDAR

SATURDAY
Baseball vs. Muhlenberg 12:30 PM

MONDAY
Baseball vs. Salisbury 3:30 PM

SATURDAY
M. Lacrosse vs. Loyola 2PM

Final second goal dooms Women's Lax



JENNY CHO/PHOTOGRAPHY STAFF

After a back and forth game against the Nittany Lions of Penn State, the Hopkins women's lacrosse team found themselves tied in the final minute of play. Unfortunately for the Lady Jays, Penn State netted the final score of the game with just 31 seconds remaining. Hopkins was unable to conjure any last second magic and fell 15-14. Their record is now 9-6. Please see page B10 for more coverage.

Jays fight for huge 15-4 win over Navy

By COLIN FRIEDMAN
Sports Editor

The Navy Midshipmen arrived at Homewood Field Friday afternoon on two large buses in preparation for the following day's matchup. While the men from Annapolis became accustomed to the Hopkins field, it seemed as if the Midshipmen weren't 100 percent focused, as some of the players were seen chasing each other around as the team boarded the bus. Roughly 24 hours later Navy stepped back on their bus with a sure sense of disappointment.

The Hopkins men's lacrosse team utilized an 11-0 game ending run to sink the Midshipmen 15-4. On a sunny Saturday afternoon, the trio of Well Stanwick, John Kaestner, and Brandon Benn combined for nine goals and eight assists while helping hold Navy scoreless in the final 28:02.

Navy drew first blood when Gabe Voumard tallied his 13th goal of the season less than two minutes into the first quarter. The unphased, visibly motivated Hopkins team immediately responded and the back and forth play continued throughout the first half.

Benn gave the Blue Jays a 3-1 lead off of a Kaestner dish but Navy quickly countered. In the midst of a 20 minute scoring drought, the Midshipmen netted two goals in 83 seconds. Voumard found the back of the goal again along with T.J. Hanzsche.

Despite the Jays undoubtedly outplaying Navy in the opening half, Hopkins found themselves in a 4-4 tie after

Voumard secured a hat trick with a missile into the top corner to start the second half.

"Very frustrating first half" said Blue Jays head coach Dave Pietramala. "Felt like we had played pretty well offensively and generated some quality looks and I thought there goalie did a great job. He was a kid we recruited and thought a lot of. He showed that today with his 12 saves. We just felt like we were doing a good job but were coming away empty."

Junior attackman Benn quickly broke the tie on a precise pass from Stanwick to notch his own hat trick. "I thought as the half

makes it a lot easier on us" said Stanwick. We had a tough first half, we came in here at halftime and said just keep working, they will start to fall."

The Blue Jays soared the remainder of the quarter, expanding the lead to 10-4. Standout freshman Ryan Brown added his 14th goal of the year on another smooth feed from Stanwick. Along with Stanwick, senior John Ranagan netted a goal in the final minutes to give Hopkins a comfortable six-goal lead heading into the final quarter. "It's exciting to know that you're contributing to the team and you're doing a good job for them, it feels great"

ning the possession battle and Poppleton is always a key contributor to the fight.

For Navy, Voumard was the only multi-point scorer while senior goalie Nolan Hickey saved 12 shots on the day.

The clouded focus of the Midshipmen proved costly in the end.

"We played a good first half and came out and scored the first goal of the second half, but from there it went all downhill," said second-year Navy head coach Rick Sowell. "It comes down to being undisciplined and that's on me."

On the other hand, Pietramala ensured that his team stayed mentally focused throughout the game, even when the Blue Jays suffered some unfortunate breaks in the first half. Pietramala's innate ability to make instrumental changes at halftime provided the fuel for Hopkins' second half rampage.

Luckily for the Hopkins faithful, the Blue Jays are getting hot at the right time. After suffering three losses in a disappointing four game stretch, Hopkins is beginning to find their groove. The team knocked off #1 Maryland last weekend, and once again proved their merit with a commanding win over a talented Navy squad.

"We are starting to play to our capability. We expected this group to be further along sooner but regardless it's a good time of year to put it together" said Pietramala.

While Navy's season comes to an end, the road does not get any easier for Hopkins as defending national champion Loyola travels to Homewood Field for the annual Homecoming game. Loyola will look to seek revenge after the Blue Jays 10-9 overtime victory last season.

Pietramala said, "We are going to be put to the test this week, quick strike, lots of transition. We are going to be chal-



NATHAN McDONALD/PHOTOGRAPHY STAFF

After losing three of four, the Jays have rebounded with big wins over Maryland and now Navy.

progressed we got a little tighter" Pietramala said. "We started gripping our sticks, we were hesitating on some of our shots. Coach Benson told them to relax and just pull the trigger."

The seemingly simple suggestion turned out to be sage advice. The remainder of the game would be all Hopkins as the Blue Jays wasted no time in striking again. Kaestner scored seven seconds later off another assist from the charitable Stanwick and then found the back of the net again to give Hopkins a 7-4 lead.

"Obviously when you're going on runs like that it

Ranagan said.

The Blue Jays remained relentless scoring four goals in a fast paced two minute spurt midway through the fourth quarter, as Benn added his fourth and fifth scores of the game.

On the day Benn tied a personal best five goals, while Kaestner had a career high three goals and three assists. Stanwick also added one goal and a career best five assists. The unsung hero of the day was senior Mike Poppleton who won 15 of his 17 faceoffs. The coaching staff continually preaches the importance of win-

W. Tennis streak reaches double digits

By JASON PLUSH
Staff Writer

In another dominating performance, the Hopkins women's tennis team swept the Muhlenberg College Mules 9-0 on Saturday after making the drive up to Allentown, Pa. The sixth-ranked Lady Jays have continued on their impressive tear, bringing their overall season record to 14-2 while remaining undefeated in the Centennial Conference, 8-0. The win was the ninth in a row for Hopkins, an impressive stretch through the heart of their demanding schedule.

"A huge key to our success this year has been our ability to remain consistent and close out big matches," said freshman Staley Smith. "We haven't cracked under pressure and have executed our game plan every single match."

Meanwhile, the Mules fell to 5-7 overall and 5-4 in the Centennial Conference. Hopkins has continued to roll throughout the course of this dominant stretch, with each win being more exciting than the previous victory. The match began with three matchups in doubles play.

The Lady Jays made an early statement by getting a necessary victory at second doubles. The combination of senior Andrea Berlinghof and freshman Olivia Kasten proved to be too much to handle for challengers Jennifer Goldberg and Sharen Resnikoff as they rolled 8-0.

The initial victory provided momentum for the first ranked doubles team of sophomores Shannon Herndon and Kaitlin Pfisterer in their match. They were on and off the court in a flash, making quick disposal of Nina Saunders and Emily Szulman. The duo only lost one game in the process and finished out the match winning five straight games in an 8-1 victory, giving the Blue Jays an early 2-0 advantage.

Doubles play closed with a much closer match than the previous two.

Junior Lauren Fields and senior Ariel Severall continuously traded points with opponents Amanda von Taube and Gabriela Contino, unable to gain a big advantage. However, the two Lady Jays were able to win a critical break point to take a two game advantage and hold on to win 8-6, completing a 3-0 sweep in doubles match play.

Kasten commented on how doubles has been a challenge for the team.

"We've had some chemistry issues early in the season, but as this weekends match has proven, we've started to come together and find the right combinations for our doubles pairs. We've been a lot more consistent over this winning streak."

Taking the three-point advantage into singles match play, Hopkins continued to steamroll and surge through the competition. They picked up their fourth point when sophomore Shannon Libaw not only won in straight sets, but also didn't drop a single game in the process, sweeping Szulman at second singles, 6-0, 6-0. The match

lasted a brief 30 minutes. Pfisterer nearly replicated Libaw's performance in her third singles match against Goldberg, only dropping a single game in her straight sets win, 6-1, 6-0.

The win clinched the victory for Hopkins and marked their ninth straight victory overall and eighth victory in conference play, making them the only undefeated team left in the conference.

The victories continued to pile up as Severall claimed the sixth point for Hopkins in her straight sets victory over Resnikoff at fourth singles. Her win marked the 15th game in a row that the Lady Jays had claimed since their 9-0 sweep of McDaniel College last weekend. Berlinghof looked excellent in her match at first singles, defeating Sanders 6-4, 6-2.

The senior's excellent leadership for the Lady Jays has been an integral component to the team's success throughout the winning streak. Her play has been speaking for itself as she has been sensational in both singles and doubles play.

Kasten brought the Jays one point away from completing the sweep of the Mules, as she took down von Taube 6-0, 6-3. Finally, freshman Staley Smith completed a successful afternoon of tennis with a 6-2, 6-0 win over Contino, achieving the sweep and bringing a close to another convincing victory in conference play.

The Lady Jays looked extremely confident on Saturday and the way they played showed it. This recent win streak makes them the number one contender and favorites in Centennial Conference playoffs and the team to beat in the postseason. Smith commented on postseason aspirations and goals moving forward.

"Obviously, it's always our goal to win the Centennial Conference as we've done successfully over the past eight years. However, the real challenge lies in getting deep into the NCAA championships. One of our goals as a team is to make it further than we did the year before. The competition will be the best we face all year and it's going to take a lot of extra time at practice and practice matches to be prepared for the tournament in May."

Kasten echoed similar goals for the postseason.

"I think putting in our best practices of the season is crucial in order to make it to the top eight. We need to finalize our doubles pairs and consistently put in our best effort and hopefully it will lead to success in the CC championships and the NCAAs."

The Jays look to keep the tremendous streak alive when they take on fellow conference rival Gettysburg this upcoming Thursday. With only a couple of weeks left in the season, the Lady Jays will look to carry their momentum into the postseason as they continue to dominate, outwork and outplay all teams who stand in their way.